

**EU to give \$65m to PNA in 1996**

GAZA CITY (AFP) — The Palestinian National Authority (PNA) on Wednesday signed a donor accord with the European Union (EU) for \$65 million in aid to help build village schools and buy computers, officials said. It was the first agreement for aid in 1996 and was hailed by Palestinian International Cooperation minister Nabil Shaath as "proof of the growing support from the European Union for the Palestinians." He signed the agreement with Thomas Dupla, the head of the EU representation in East Jerusalem. It provides for \$17.5 million for new village schools, and \$18 million towards universities and higher education in the territories, as well as five million for computers and equipment. Some \$13 million will go towards local government services, and there were several other projects. The PNA is hoping the Palestinians will also share in \$12 billion of aid and loans to be announced at a conference in Barcelona on Nov. 27 and 28.

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**ZILLIAN PAINTING**  
sets record  
in the Hague

THE HAGUE (AFP) —  
Palestinian leader Yasser  
Arafat arrived at a military  
airport near here Wednesday  
for a one-day visit to discuss  
the Middle East peace process,  
the government press service said. The Palestine  
Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader was to hold talks  
with Prime Minister Wim  
Kok and Foreign Minister  
Hans van Mierlo. The three  
were expected to discuss the  
Middle East peace process in  
the aftermath of the assassination  
of Israeli Prime  
Minister Yitzhak Rabin and set  
his sights firmly on Syria.

(Continued on page 7)

**Arafat arrives in**

**Peres secures Knesset**

**approval for his cabinet**

**Peace with Syria in priority focus**

**Combined agency dispatches**

**ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER** Shimon Peres won the backing of the Knesset (parliament) on Wednesday to press on with the peace policies of his assassinated predecessor Yitzhak Rabin and set his sights firmly on Syria.

His new cabinet team was approved by the Knesset by 62 votes for and eight against. There were 38 abstentions out of the 120-seat parliament. The other members of Knesset were absent or chose not to take part in the electronic vote.

With his new team in place, Mr. Peres, 72, took personal charge of the peace negotiations, setting up an inner core of ministers to help him steer the process.

Former chief of staff Ehud Barak became foreign minister, while the charismatic head of the trade union body Histadrut, Haim Ramon, took over as interior minister.

But the divided vote showed that despite a determination not to allow the act of a Jewish fanatic who gunned down Mr. Rabin on Nov. 4 to govern the country's policies, political differences remained as sharply etched as ever.

Mr. Peres pledged: "The basis of this government is 'no to violence, yes to peace,'" recalling the slogan of the Tel Aviv rally where Mr. Rabin was killed.

Most of the right-wing deputies had already determined to abstain from the vote, thus showing their outrage at the assassination without actively backing the new government.

"Shimon the son of Yit-

zak and Sarah Peres, promise as the prime minister to pledge allegiance to the State of Israel and its laws, to faithfully fulfill my job as the prime minister and to carry out the Knesset decisions," he said.

In a personal plea, Mr.

Peres urged Syrian President Hafez Al Assad to join in the march to peace, addressing him as if he were present in the Israeli parliament.

"You have to understand

that the logic of war is over," he said to Mr. Assad.

"I ask you to help build

peace. It can be a global

and a regional peace in all fields, strategic and economic," he said and pledged Israel was ready to resume talks with Syria which ground to a halt in June.

U.S. Secretary of State

Warren Christopher telephoned Mr. Peres on

Wednesday to wish him luck

and assure him of the support

of the United States in peace moves towards Syria.

Syrian state radio said

Damascus "will welcome any

initiative which will help to

secure peace and will support

any effort towards this."

It said: "This peace will be

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accepted by all parties,"

adding that it would have to

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## UAE, Iran fail to agree on dispute over islands

**DOHA** (Agencies) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Iran have failed to agree on a course for settling a long-standing conflict over three strategic islands in the Gulf, UAE delegates said Wednesday.

The four-day talks held in Qatar to resolve the dispute over the islands of Abu Musa and the Greater and Lesser Tunbs were the first since September 1992 when a session in Abu Dhabi broke up without agreement.

Iran and the UAE were unable to find "a basis of understanding" for an agenda outlining the points to be negotiated for settling the conflict. UAE delegation head Khalifa Shuhine Al Merri told the official UAE news agency WAM.

Mr. Merri denounced what he called Iran's "lack of flexibility" during the talks here.

He charged that the "Iranian side categorically refused" to help draw up an

agenda which he said Doha had proposed when it invited the two sides to meet in Qatar.

Tehran argued instead that "the goal of the meeting was not to develop an agenda," he said.

Mr. Merri renewed his country's call "to settle the conflict peacefully or take the conflict over the three islands to the International Court of Justice at the Hague" if the two sides fail to reach an understanding.

When the talks began Saturday, the UAE proposed a four-point agenda demanding first Iran's withdrawal from the two Tunbs. It also asked for implementing the accord the two countries struck in 1971 calling for shared administration of Abu Musa until its sovereignty is determined.

Heading the Iranian team here was Hussein Sadeqi, a senior foreign ministry official, but there was no im-

mediate comment from him or his team.

Tehran has always insisted its sovereignty over the three islands, which the Iranian army occupied in 1971, was "not negotiable," although it was ready to clear up "misunderstanding" about the administration of Abu Musa.

The official Iranian news agency IRNA said in Tehran Monday that the foreign ministers of the UAE and Iran could meet soon in Doha to revive the talks after having previously insisted they meet in the Iranian capital.

The round in Abu Dhabi, the UAE capital, collapsed in 1992 after Iran refused to discuss Greater and Lesser Tunbs.

The islands dispute erupted in 1992 after the UAE accused Iran of trying to annex Abu Musa despite a 21-year-old arrangement to share administration of Abu Musa until its sovereignty is determined.

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"Everything can be negotiated except the Sharia (Islamic Law)," Mr. Banani said. "Self-determination is not a thing that cannot be discussed or negotiated."

Mr. Banani was a member of the politburo of the National Islamic Front. The front, like other parties, was disbanded after Lt. Gen. Omar Al Basir took power in a bloodless coup in 1989. The party was headed by Hassan Al Turabi, believed to be the power behind Al Bashir's government.

The letter echoes a call for self-determination that was made by opposition politicians and rebel leaders at a conference last June in

Asmara, Eritrea. The Sudanese government condemned that conference, suggesting that those who participated had committed treason against Sudan.

The government has rejected all calls for succession by the south. But it has said it is willing to exempt non-Muslims from the application of Islamic Sharia law and will consider some autonomy for the southern region.

The newspaper quoted the letter as saying the people of the south should be allowed "their fundamental right" of deciding on some form of unity with the north or "the option for southern Sudan to become an independent sovereign state."

Under Islamic rule, it said,

the southerners find themselves treated as "second-class citizens" and are under social, racial, cultural and religious pressure.

The letter called for a national conference with participation by all factions to establish a "transitional administration".

Prince Nayef did not specify any nationality.

## Former officials urge Khartoum and southern rebels to end strife

**KHARTOUM** (AP) — Five former Sudanese officials have appealed in a letter to the Islamic regime and southern rebels to negotiate an end to the civil war by giving the south the right to a say in its future.

The existence of the letter was disclosed Wednesday by Amin Banani, a member of Sudan's parliament and a leading proponent of Islamic rule in the north.

Mr. Banani was quoted in the independent Al Rai Al Akbar newspaper as criticizing the government for not making the letter public and as saying that he supported discussion of the idea.

Among those who signed the letter was Abel Alier, who served as vice president under former President Gaafar Nimeiri. Mr. Alier negotiated a 1972 truce to the civil war.

Southern rebels rose up again in 1983 to demand more autonomy for Christians and tribal religions in the south from the Islamic north. More than 1.3 million people have died since in

fighting and war-related famines.

"I agree with the content of the letter of former Vice President Abel Alier, which calls for giving southern Sudan the right to self-determination," said Mr. Banani.

He also said the letter should have been made public earlier so that it could be subject to "open debate."

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## Lebanon marks independence day under the shadow of its neighbours

**By Sam F. Ghattas  
Associated Press**

**BEIRUT**, Lebanon (AP) — Lebanon marked 52 years of independence Wednesday, but the tiny nation feels squeezed between its more powerful neighbors, Syria and Israel.

For the past decade, Israeli troops have occupied about 10 per cent of Lebanon's territory in a self-declared security zone in South Lebanon, and Israeli warplanes have controlled the skies.

The 40,000 Syrian troops stationed in Lebanon almost match the size of Lebanon's own army, and many Lebanese government decisions are heavily influenced, if not decided, in the Syrian capital of Damascus.

With the bagpipes and French martial music playing, Lebanese troops filed past a reviewing stand Wednesday along one of

Beirut's main streets, the scene of fighting during the country's 1975-90 civil war.

The government has largely restored law and order over the past five years. The rebuilt army is now 50,000-strong and a multi-billion dollar economic reconstruction campaign is moving ahead.

But some commentators felt there was little to celebrate.

"What are they celebrating? Which independence?" Al Nahar, a leading Lebanese newspaper, said in a front-page editorial Tuesday. "Is there anything left of independence and its meanings to deserve celebration?"

Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, speaking to Lebanese expatriates Tuesday in Argentina, said independence day would not take on its full meaning until Israeli forces pulled out of south Lebanon and there was a "just and com-

prehensive peace in the region."

Lebanon insists from the south Lebanon border enclave, Israel says it is willing to pull out, but only if its northern areas can be secured against cross-border guerrilla attacks.

Lebanon's peace negotiations with Israel have stalled for over a year. The United States, sponsor of Mideast peace negotiations, and the Israelis have focused their attention on Syria and it is widely believed that Lebanon will follow Syria's lead.

The developments in the region have proven that there is no peace without peace with Syria and Lebanon.

"The developments in the region have proven that there is no peace without peace with Syria and Lebanon," President Elias Hrawi said Tuesday night.

In a thinly veiled criticism of Israel, Mr. Hrawi said, "We are not the ones who are delaying the fulfillment of peace."

Syria's own peace talks

with Israel have made little progress since they began in 1991. The two sides are at odds over future ties and security arrangements on the Golan Heights, which Israel captured from Syria in 1967.

Syria has emerged as the main power in Lebanon and its role has expanded to involve most important issues. Even the final word on extending Mr. Hrawi's term in office came from Syria last month.

But many Lebanese feel a Syrian military pullout from Lebanon could rekindle the civil war.

"Quite obviously (Lebanese) independence isn't as complete as it should be," Ronald Schieleier, the top U.S. diplomat in Lebanon said

Wednesday at the presidential palace. "We hope that with the peace process, Lebanon will be able to achieve its full independence and sovereignty."

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"Quite obviously (Lebanese) independence isn't as complete

## Doctors stress need to establish control committee

By Lola Keilani  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Doctors participating in a two-day symposium entitled "Malpractice in the Medical Profession," stressed the need to set up a committee of experts to evaluate and reevaluate the standard of medical practices in Jordan.

"We doctors should take the initiative of establishing a quality control committee in which the specifications of the profession could be updated according to medical discoveries and development," said Kamal Ajlouni, professor of medicine at Jordan University.

Experts in the field of medicine, justice and journalism, will discuss medical malpractice and how it relates to the laws, insurance, mass media exposure, and patient-doctor relations.

Doctors attending the workshop were locked in a discussion over the extent to which a patient has the right to know his/her medical condition prior to surgery.

"Statistics clearly show that Jordanians are reluctant to take a doctor to court, in cases of malpractice," Mr. Malhas said.

Establishing a committee to upgrade the medical profession is important especially since patients tend to drop the case due to some social pressures. Dr. Ajlouni said, hinting at tribal customs.

Information should be given if the patient

demands it, he added.

Doctors stressed that current laws hinder them from contributing and participating in the field of medicine.

"We seek the well-being

## Minister inaugurates two water projects

Government embarks on JD 200m plan to replace old water networks

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Water and Irrigation Saleh Irshidat on Wednesday inaugurated a JD 1,147,394 water pipeline project in Al Muwaqqar District, southeast of Amman.

The project, to be completed within 180 days, aims to supply the villages of Maghayer Al Muhanna, Nuqaira, Buweida, Um Butma, Duheiba, Khatimiyeh and Falsaliyah with a total of 3,600 cubic metres of water a day.

Minister of State Jamal Khrisheh, who was present at the ceremony, said the project was launched at directives by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, to tackle the problem of scarcity of water in the area, inhabited by about 60,000 people.

Mr. Khrisheh said preliminary studies, which were prepared by the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ), showed that the project will resolve this problem in a record time.

Dr. Irshidat later inaugurated a similar project

worth JD 646,000 to extend a water pipeline from Al Juweideh Bridge to Al Falsaliyah Bridge.

The 8.5-kilometre pipeline will provide water to Sabab Industrial City.

About 1,000 cubic metres of water will be pumped daily through the pipeline to new factories established recently at the city as well as areas it passes through, including a grain silo and two villages with a population of 80,000.

Following the two ceremonies, held in observance of His Majesty King Hussein's 60th birthday, Dr. Irshidat said in a statement the government was keen to provide tap water to all of the Kingdom's populated areas and to resolve chronic problems in areas suffering water shortages.

The government, he said, has started an ambitious national plan aimed at changing old water networks which waste about 50 per cent of the water pumped through them.

"We will continue the other stages as soon as possible since this project takes high priority," Dr. Irshidat said.



Water and Irrigation Minister Saleh Irshidat Wednesday inaugurates a water project south of Amman (Petra photo)

million, includes plans to replace the main feeding networks in Irbid, Ramtha, Maafraq, Salt and Aqaba.

According to the minister, two main stages of the project in Amman were completed.

"We will continue the other stages as soon as possible since this project takes high priority," Dr. Irshidat said.

be invited as soon as an international company completes feasibility studies.

He added that designs to build dams in Al Tannour, Mujib and Wala areas were completed.

"We will continue the other stages as soon as possible since this project takes high priority," Dr. Irshidat said.

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He said the main problem facing the ministry in resolving the problem of water shortage in some areas was the high cost of water pipelines as well as the poor quality of underground water in some of the Kingdom's regions.

The minister stressed that Jordan "has gained the lion's share of the Yarmouk River water" under the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty signed October 1994, noting that Jordan will obtain 90 million cubic metres of the river's water annually.

Dr. Irshidat said several European countries have also expressed readiness to finance a \$70-80 million water pipeline project between Al Asayeh and Deir Alla in the Jordan Valley by offering soft loans. Technical studies on the project are now in their final phase, he said, adding that tenders for the project will be announced as soon as these studies are finished.

## 63-year-old rapist receives death sentence

By Rana Husseini  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Criminal Court Wednesday sentenced Sabri Abdullah Abu Foudeh, 63, to death for molesting and raping a 10-year-old girl from Jabal Nadin in his shop in April.

In addition, the convict received five additional years of imprisonment with hard labour after being found guilty of molesting the child "100 times" and was ordered by the court to pay JD 25,000 in compensation to the victim's family.

Abu Foudeh, who pleaded not guilty, bowed his head when hearing the verdict, but seemed impulsive as he was escorted outside the courtroom by security officers.

According to court documents, the main evidence used against Abu Foudeh was his own confession in front of the prosecutor general that on the afternoon of April 29 he asked Basma Bakr, who was returning home from school to enter his shop, took her behind the counter, molested and then raped her.

The girl, an Egyptian national, was threatened with death by Abu Foudeh if she told anyone what happened, the court documents said.

The child, who had been molested by Abu Foudeh for over a period of four months, told her family who had noticed that something was wrong with their daughter, according to the documents.

In his testimony to police, Abu Foudeh first

denied that he had raped the girl or that he even knew her. But later he confessed in front of the prosecutor general to molesting and raping the child.

Other evidence used in the case was a 10-year-old child, a friend of Basma's, who told the court that she saw Basma in Abu Foudeh's shop shortly before the incident.

Other prosecutor witnesses in the case included, other than the child, her parents and the forensic doctor who examined the girl after the rape.

The prosecutor general had sought the maximum penalty. The verdict will automatically be reviewed by the Court of Cassation in the next 15 days.

## Court dismisses lawsuit against peace treaty

By Rana Husseini  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Supreme Court Wednesday dismissed a case filed by two women in March against the government and parliament charging that the peace treaty with Israel is unconstitutional and violates their rights.

Presiding Judge Khleif Zuhemat ruled that the

issue was beyond its jurisdiction and decided to dismiss the case.

"My feeling is like any attorney who accepts a court order, I think it was fair as long as the court ruled that the case was not within its jurisdiction," Muheeba Haddadin, an attorney told the Jordan Times Wednesday.

Ms. Haddadin and her mother Fadda, last March

demanded the annulment of the treaty, and also alleged that the Oct. 26 treaty violates Arab and Palestinian rights and will lead to ethnic and religious wars in the region.

During the opening session, a government lawyer, Fuad Abu Zeinah, declared that the lawsuit had no legal base and challenged the Supreme Court's jurisdiction to hear the case.

He argued that the treaty was ratified by parliament and was thus constitutional.

The lawsuit argues that the treaty is unconstitutional because it concedes Arab land in Palestine, which is part of the Arab Nation, and the people who signed the document are not authorized to concede Arab land.

This is a clear violation of Arab and Palestinian rights and overstepping of authority, Ms. Haddadin, an attorney said.

The lawsuit contends that the peace accord distorts historical facts because Jews never had a nation in Palestine ever in history, and recognizing such a right for them now contradicts and distorts history.

## Meeting calls for increased Arab food production

AMMAN (Petra) — The Executive Board of the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development (AOAD) Wednesday wrapped up a two-day meeting in Amman by calling on Arab financial institutions and funds to increase their lending to Arab countries in order to boost their efforts to increase food production.

In a statement at the final session, the seven-member board also approved the programmes of the Latakiyah-based Arab Institute for Forests and Pasture Lands.

endorsed a number of joint studies with African countries and backed the AOAD's proposed activities for the next three years.

According to the statement, these activities include programmes for protecting the environment, developing natural and human resources and giving them lending to Arab countries in order to boost their efforts to increase food production.

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## WHAT'S GOING ON

**FILM**  
• "El Rey Del Bambu" at Instituto Cervantes, Jabal Amman, on Thursday at 5:00 p.m.  
• "Ingrid Slaves of Fashion" (with commentary in Arabic by Dr. Khalil Khreish at Darat Al Funun, Jabal Weibdeh, on Thursday at 5:30 p.m.

## LECTURES

• "The Ruling Crisis during the Abdul Karim Qasim era" in Arabic by Dr. Mohammad Al Zubaidi at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation on Thursday at 6:00 p.m.

## POETRY RECITAL

• Recital of poems by Amal Al Jbouri of Iraq at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation, Jabal Amman, on Thursday at 6:00 p.m. accompanied by music from Munir Bashir.

• Musical performance by concert pianist Jean-Pierre Fournier at the Royal Cultural Centre on Thursday at 8 p.m.

## EXHIBITIONS

• Annual fall exhibition "Khawatir" at the Jordan River Designs, Tel 613081/2 until Dec. 1.

• "Pakistani Women of Substance in paintings and photographs" at the National Gallery of Fine Arts, Jebel Weibdeh.

Thanksgiving Is Here

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Celebrate the great American holiday on Nov. 23rd in traditional style. Al-Mansaf Restaurant features a delectable buffet for lunch and a special seated menu for dinner.

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## New Zealand and Australia condemn French nuclear test

WELLINGTON (R) — New Zealand and Australia, angry over France's continued nuclear testing in the South Pacific, Wednesday condemned the most recent test and rebuked Paris for defying international protocols.

"It is utterly disappointing and extremely frustrating that France, in the face of so much international opposition, should persist with these tests. We deplore this latest blast," New Zealand Foreign Minister Don McKinnon said.

Mr. McKinnon summoned French Ambassador Jacques Le Blanc to a meeting immediately upon hearing news of the test Tuesday, the fourth in the series.

"I have delivered a short and sharp message to Ambassador Le Blanc. France is being left in absolutely no doubt about the strength of New Zealand's feeling at its actions," Mr. McKinnon told reporters after the meeting.

Mr. Le Blanc declined to comment on the meeting and was ushered through a side door to avoid waiting reporters.

Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating, who has announced a campaign to rid the world of nuclear weapons, said he was appalled at the latest blast.

"(France) has further isolated itself from internation-

al thinking on nuclear issues and significantly devalued its international credentials," Mr. Keating said in a statement.

Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans, in what he described as a stern 40-minute meeting with Ambassador Dominique Girard, urged France to abandon its test programme and close its South Pacific nuclear test facilities.

"I told him that the test programme was continuing in contemptuous disregard of what was clearly the overwhelming opposition of the international community," Mr. Evans said.

A French statement said the underground blast, equivalent to less than 40,000 tonnes of conventional explosives, was detonated at the Mururoa atoll in French Polynesia at 10.30 p.m. Paris time (2130 GMT).

The New Zealand Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences said the explosion measured 15 kilotonnes, equal to 15,000 tonnes of ordinary explosives.

Paris said the blast was aimed at developing the capacity to simulate tests on computer.

President Jacques Chirac has said France will cut the number of tests to six from a scheduled eight. Mr. Chirac expressed "great regret" at the fourth test.

Swedish Foreign Minister Lena Hjelm-Wallen said this

treaty banning tests forever once the series is completed by May 31 at the latest.

The environmental group Greenpeace said the fourth test was a slap in the face for the Commonwealth and the United Nations.

"The majority of Commonwealth and United Nations members have shown a united voice against continued nuclear testing," Greenpeace spokesman Michael Szabo said in a statement.

"Instead of listening to the opinion of the international community, the French president, Jacques Chirac, has responded by slapping them in the face."

In Fiji the South Pacific Forum, which represents 15 of the nations closest to the Mururoa atoll nuclear test site, expressed "extreme outrage" at the latest blast. Forum Secretary General Jeremia Tabai said: "It is my hope that France note that our continuing anger over nuclear testing is justified."

In Papeete, capital of French Polynesia, the head of the local Evangelical Church, Jacques Ihorai, said: "Once again the strong, France, dominates the weak, Polynesia, and the latter is forced to accept a nuclear policy it deplores."

Security was stepped up in the French Polynesian capital following the blast. The first test sparked off fierce rioting in Papeete by pro-independence Polynesians, and security

week: "Obviously it's not a satisfying situation when France does not want to cooperate with other countries at the highest level. The solution is to stop nuclear testing."

In Copenhagen, Foreign Minister Niels Helveg Petersen said Wednesday that Denmark "deplored" the new test and in Vienna. Austrian Environment Minister Martin Bertenstein said it was "very disappointing" and "unintelligible" of France to continue with the programme.

In Fiji the South Pacific Forum, which represents 15 of the nations closest to the Mururoa atoll nuclear test site, expressed "extreme outrage" at the latest blast. Forum Secretary General Jeremia Tabai said: "It is my hope that France note that our continuing anger over nuclear testing is justified."

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Princess Diana talks to BBC's Panorama presenter Martin Bashir in an exclusive interview (AFP photo)

## Princess Diana's gamble pays off

LONDON (R) — Princess Diana's high-risk gamble to bare her soul to tens of millions of television viewers appears to have paid off as media phone-in polls showed overwhelming support for her.

In a painfully frank interview the denuo mother of two told of the pain of her failed marriage to Prince Charles, her knowledge of his adultery with Camilla Parker-Bowles and her own affair with handsome army officer James Hewitt who betrayed her with a kiss-and-tell hook.

She also spoke of a smear campaign against her and cast doubt on her estranged husband's suitability to become king.

Nicholas Soames, a close friend of Prince Charles, dismissed the interview, saying Princess Diana was "showing advanced stages of paranoia" but most Britons seemed to disagree.

The mass-circulation Daily Mirror said 37,000 readers had telephoned to give their views and a staggering 93 per cent said that Princess Diana's BBC appearance was a good move.

Another phone-in survey attracted 15,000 callers, with 83 per cent saying the interview raised their opinion of the 34-year-old princess.

"By the end, I was left feeling I had listened to a very strong, loving woman give a very honest account of a very painful period of her life. I admire her," a woman caller told another tabloid newspaper, the Sun.

"Diana would provide the country with the compassionate monarch we all want," said another.

Newspapers billed the candid revelations of the beautiful blonde princess as the biggest crisis to hit the monarchy since Edward VIII abdicated the throne in 1936 for American divorcee Wallis Simpson.

The damage to the monarchy remains to be seen but if Princess Diana proved anything with her assured performance Monday it was that she is a force to be reckoned with and certainly not the shy, retiring young woman Prince Charles married 14 years ago.

With a peak audience of 23 million in Britain, an 83 per cent share of viewers, and 10 times that number internationally, Princess Diana's superstar status cannot be denied.

Her sensational confessions of bulimic binges, self-inflicted wounding and bouts of depression topped the news around the globe.

Buckingham Palace, quick to limit any further damage, offered to hold talks with Princess Diana to discuss her future role.

That alone could be considered the first small victory in her quest to be an ambassador for Britain".

"She seems like a nice girl, but we don't like those declarations of hers saying she cheated on her husband," said Lita De Lazzari, head of the League of Housewives.

"She's supposed to be an example to the women of the world. It's a shame she didn't come to us for some advice first."

The Housewives' leader was not alone in criticising "the fuss all these social climbers are making to get to see her."

Hebe De Bonafini, leader of Argentina's best-known human rights group, the Mothers of the Plaza De Mayo, told Reuters: "For me the princess is just a woman like any other and I don't care why she's coming. Such a lot of tabloid press after her when there are so many things happening in the world."

## Khasbulatov to join Chechenya election race

MOSCOW (R) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin's old foe Ruslan Khasbulatov has been nominated as a candidate for leader of the breakaway southern region of Chechenya. ITAR-TASS news agency said Wednesday.

The election, which Chechen separatists have vowed to disrupt, is set for Dec. 17, the same day as a vote for seats in Russia's State Duma lower chamber of parliament.

Registration of candidates was expected to start Wednesday. It was not clear if Mr. Khasbulatov's name had been formally submitted to the Electoral Commission or who would stand against him.

Meanwhile Argentina will provide the stage Thursday for Princess Diana's chosen new career as "ambassador" for Britain, but many Argentines are unimpressed with her confessions of adultery and indifferent to her visit.

Princess Diana arrives in Buenos Aires Thursday for a programme of visits to charities and hospitals.

The 34-year-old princess is making her debut as envoy in a country that still bears the scars of the 1982 Falklands War. Most of the 1,000 servicemen killed in the 10-week war were Argentine and the country still campaigns for sovereignty.

Argentine officials, aware of the sensitivity of her visit when the two former foes have just signed a Falklands oil deal, have kept up a discreet silence about Princess Diana and her account of her side of the royal marriage break-up.

The local press was less diplomatic.

"I was unfaithful, Lady Di admits," read Clarin's cover with a photo of her at a charity dinner. La Nacion called her "a blend of Mother Teresa, Audrey Hepburn and Shirley Temple."

Her visit reinforces one British paper's comparison with Eva Peron, wife of Juan Peron, the populist Argentine president from 1946-55 and 1973-74.

Eva Peron achieved widespread popular support through her work on social welfare, and received far more public affection than her husband," wrote The European newspaper last week.

Peronist President Carlos Menem, who reveres the memory of Evita, is due to lunch with Princess Diana Friday. His own life is full of controversies, including divorce and a son born out of wedlock.

While well-heeled Argentines lobby for an invitation to a lunch with Princess Diana or a charity dinner Friday, others voice disapproval of her behaviour and the television interview.

"She seems like a nice girl, but we don't like those declarations of hers saying she cheated on her husband," said Lita De Lazzari, head of the League of Housewives.

"She's supposed to be an example to the women of the world. It's a shame she didn't come to us for some advice first."

The Housewives' leader was not alone in criticising "the fuss all these social climbers are making to get to see her."

Hebe De Bonafini, leader of Argentina's best-known human rights group, the Mothers of the Plaza De Mayo, told Reuters: "For me the princess is just a woman like any other and I don't care why she's coming. Such a lot of tabloid press after her when there are so many things happening in the world."

## Natalie Cole files for divorce

LOS ANGELES (R) — Natalie Cole, the award-winning rhythm and blues singer and daughter of Nat "King" Cole, filed for divorce Tuesday and sought a restraining order against her husband, Andre Fischer. The petition, filed in Los Angeles County Superior Court, cited irreconcilable differences. Cole's publicist was not available for further comment. Cole made her debut in 1975 as a blues vocalist; and went to the top of the pop charts with a single from her Inseparable album. She spent most of the 1980s in obscurity before making a comeback in 1991 with the groundbreaking Unforgettable, which used recordings of her late father's voice to create father-daughter duets of his greatest hits. The technique was recently used by the Beatles to reunite the three surviving members in a recording with the late John Lennon.

## China launches nearly free pay TV

BEIJING (R) — China is launching what should be the world's cheapest pay television channels — costing just one yuan (\$0.12) a month for residents of poor, remote areas and three yuan (\$0.36) for those in rich regions. China central television on Nov. 30 will start test broadcasts on four new subscriber channels using newly acquired satellite technology by encrypted signals, China Daily said. One of the new pay channels will broadcast eight Chinese and foreign movies daily, while the culture and arts channel will feature music, cartoons, dubbed films and television series. China has more than 900 million television viewers.

## China offers volleyball, beer to lure tourists

BEIJING (R) — China expects record tourism revenues in 1995 and is offering beach volleyball and beer festivals to attract more visitors, a top tourism official said. In 1995 foreign tourists are expected to spend \$8 billion in China and domestic tourists 110 billion yuan (\$13.25 billion), the China News Service quoted Liu Yi, director of the National Tourism Bureau, as saying. To keep up the momentum, China will organise a series of events next year, including beach volleyball and southern Beihai, a beer festival in eastern Qingdao and yachting, fishing, dragon boat and water sports festivals in various provinces, Mr. Liu said.

## Prostitution on the rise in China

BEIJING (AFP) — Prostitution is rapidly growing and becoming more organised in China despite government attempts to curb the phenomenon, the Public Security Ministry said Monday. "The problem is worsening day by day" cases of prostitution and the number of prostitutes are increasing," the public security news reported. Of the 300,000 prostitutes arrested in 1994, half worked from a fixed place, the report said. Chinese triads and foreign gangs, which control gambling and drug-trafficking, are increasingly involved in the sex industry, the ministry's official daily reported.

Some police and Communist Party cadres are also involved and the rise in prostitution has led to an increase in venereal diseases and AIDS cases, the ministry said. This year, the Public Security Ministry launched a nationwide campaign against prostitution. Between July and September in Beijing, 1,170 prostitutes and clients were arrested and 61 premises closed down.

Mr. Khasbulatov and then Vice-President Alexander Rutskoi led a revolt which was put down by tanks. The rebellion leaders were arrested but were freed four months later under an amnesty by the new parliament. Hebe De Bonafini, leader of Argentina's best-known human rights group, the Mothers of the Plaza De Mayo, told Reuters: "For me the princess is just a woman like any other and I don't care why she's coming. Such a lot of tabloid press after her when there are so many things happening in the world."

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lie Cole files  
for divorce

NGELES (R) Cole, the rhythm and blues daughter of Cole, filed Tuesday a restraining order against her husband, Al. The petition in Angeles Court, cited in different publicists was for further Cole made her debut as a blues vocal to the top of charts with a single. She spent most 80s in obscurity making a come-back with the group Unforgettably used recording father's voice father-daughter of his greatest technique was recorded by the three sisters in a revival late John Lennon.

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## Charles attends premiere of new James Bond movie

LONDON — Prince Charles showed no sign of any strains that may have been caused by his wife's tell-all interview as he joked and mingled with the stars of new James Bond movie *GoldenEye* at the royal premiere here Tuesday. Looking relaxed and cheerful, the prince chatted for several minutes with the film's star, Pierce Brosnan, and his 12-year-old son Sean, who Brosnan explained was a budding musician who played the guitar. "At least it's not drums," Prince Charles said. "No, we've gone through that phase," Brosnan said. "So has mine, if you know what I mean," the prince replied to laughter. The photograph shows Brosnan and Isabella Scurope (left) with the BMW Z3 roadster in the movie *GoldenEye* (AFP photo).

## NLD might boycott Burma convention — Suu Kyi

RANGOON (AFP) — Opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi issued a challenge Wednesday to Burmese military junta, warning that her National League for Democracy (NLD) might boycott next week's National Convention. Speaking to reporters at the lakeside home where she spent almost six years under house arrest, Aung San Suu Kyi said that the main opposition NLD was ready for dialogue but would not accept the convention as it stood.

"We continue to keep the door open for dialogue and discussion, but the convention in its present form ... is totally unacceptable to the vast majority of the people of Burma," she said. The remarks by Aung San Suu Kyi — reinstated as NLD general secretary in October in a party reshuffle — were ignored by the government rejected — were her most direct and critical about the junta since her release from a bloody

arrest in July. Mrs. Suu Kyi said the current set-up of the convention, which reconvenes Tuesday after a seven-month break, precluded achieving its professed aim of allowing elected officials to draw up a constitution democratically.

The National Convention in its present state cannot assist in achieving national reconciliation, a genuine multi-party democracy or a state constitution," she said. The convention is to draw up a new constitution for Burma, after which the military junta has said it would hand over power to a civilian government.

Asked if the NLD would boycott the convention, Mrs. Suu Kyi said that the party had not yet made a final decision, but added that this did not mean "we will not make the decision if we think it is right."

She said that since the NLD had the mandate of the people, the party's voice represented the will of the Burmese people.

"A constitution not supported by the people is just a piece of paper," she said.

The National Convention "was not democratic and the basic principles for the proposed constitution include some which are not in line with a truly democratic state," she said.

One of the bills the convention is expected to pass would ban individuals married to foreigners from becoming prime minister, a measure apparently aimed at Mrs. Suu Kyi, who is married to a British citizen.

Mrs. Suu Kyi, who led pro-democracy demonstrations until confined under house arrest in July 1989, said relations between the junta and the opposition should improve.

"I think we can only get closer," she said. "I think the NLD and SLORC (State Law and Order Restoration Council: the junta's official name) are so far apart, there is no way they could get any further apart."

## Japanese F-15 shot down in training mishap

TOKYO (R) — A Japanese Air Force F-15 fighter was accidentally shot down by another F-15 Wednesday during training and the Defense Ministry ordered all fighters to stop using the type of air-to-air missile involved.

The pilot of the destroyed single-seat F-15 fighter, the mainstay of Japan's air force, escaped unharmed.

Defence Ministry officials said a heat-seeking missile, an AIM-9 Sidewinder, was fired by an F-15 and hit the plane in front of it during dogfight manoeuvres over the Sea of Japan.

The two aircraft had taken off from Komatsu Air Base, on the Sea of Japan coast about 300 kilometres west of Tokyo, and were conducting routine training off Noto peninsula, about 160 kilometres northeast of the base.

In September 1986, an F-

ducted immediately," the ministry said in a statement.

The F-15 that fired the missile was armed with two AIM-9s. Training is normally conducted with only mock missiles, but the aircraft in question was armed because it had just been on scramble alert, to be used by stand-by crew in case of an intrusion into Japanese airspace.

The AIM-9 missile, an advanced version of the U.S.-designed Sidewinder heat-seeking missile, is produced in Japan under licence. It is the most common air-to-air weapon in the Japanese and many other air forces around the world.

Only Israel, Saudi Arabia and Japan have F-15 fighters.

Defence Ministry officials said there have been four accidental missile firings on the ground in the past, but the ministry does not know what happened. An investigation will be con

## S. Korean ruling party to begin political reform

SEOUL (R) — South Korea's ruling party said Wednesday it would change its name to improve its image tainted by a slush fund scandal involving ex-President Roh Tae-Woo.

President Kim Young-Sam's Democratic Liberal Party said in a statement it wanted to "wipe out evil political legacies from the past and be reborn in a new shape."

Analysts have said Mr. Roh's arrest signals the start of sweeping political reforms in the country and a crackdown on money politics that has long disgusted ordinary Koreans.

The party was created in January 1990 through a merger of the then ruling Democratic Justice Party headed by Mr. Roh and two opposition groups — one headed by Kim Young-Sam who later won the presidential election in 1992.

Ruling party Board

country's two biggest conglomerates, each handed 25 billion won (\$32.5 million) to Mr. Roh while in office.

They also reported LG group, one of the four largest groups, gave him 21 billion won (\$27.3 million).

Of the four groups mentioned, prosecutors have so far publicly named only Daewoo group Chairman Kim Woo-Choong for giving up to 24 billion won (\$31.2 million) to Mr. Roh in return for a submarine hause construction contract and other projects.

Prosecutors have so far grilled about 40 heads or senior executives of the country's leading conglomerates, including the top four groups, to find out if they offered Mr. Roh bribes in return for lucrative contracts while he was president.

Prosecutors also gave details of money which they said 25 other business

groups had paid to Mr. Roh, the news reports said.

Spokesmen at the top four conglomerates said they were only waiting for results of the investigations.

Senior prosecutor Ahn Kang-Min, leading the probe, has said the heads of the conglomerates will be resounding if necessary.

An official at the prosecutor-general's office said Wednesday Lee Won-Joe, a former member of parliament who was in Mr. Roh's inner circle and dealt with financial affairs, would be called in to be grilled Thursday over the scandal.

On Wednesday about 40 relatives of dissidents killed during anti-government demonstrations under Mr. Roh and his predecessor Chun Doo Hwan staged a rally outside the Seoul detention house, demanding Mr. Roh be treated equally with other prisoners, witnesses said.

## Sri Lanka troops surround Jaffna, cut rebel route

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lankan army commandos and airborne troops encircled the northern Tamil Tiger stronghold of Jaffna City, cutting off a key rebel supply route early Wednesday.

A military statement said the capture of the Jaffna-Kandy Highway followed a fierce battle Tuesday afternoon in which 45 rebels were killed and more than 100 wounded in the Ariyalai area, east of Jaffna but within the town limits.

The statement said troops advanced further south, apparently heading for the coast, in an encircling move through Ariyalai.

Defence analysts said Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) rebels remaining in Jaffna City will be cut off once the army reaches the coast and blocks the highway and other roads to Chavakachcheri, further east.

Four rebels speeding along the highway Wed

nesday morning were killed when troops fired on their vehicle, which was transporting a large quantity of military equipment, the military said.

The final battle for Jaffna is now being waged by the army's elite Reserve Strike Force of commandos and airborne troops, better trained for fighting in urban areas, who took over from regular soldiers Monday.

Rebel radio said Wednesday they lost 10 fighters and killed several soldiers in day-long fighting Tuesday at Ariyalai.

The military said rebels suffered heavy casualties Tuesday morning when they tried to hold up advancing troops with heavy machine gun fire and mortars.

Troops retaliated very effectively supported by armour and artillery causing heavy casualties to terrorists," it said adding that an officer was killed and 25 soldiers were wounded in the action.

But a Voice of Tigers

Troops were moving carefully through a maze of mines and boobytraps laid by retreating rebels to delay their advance in the heavily built up suburbs of Jaffna City, military sources said.

More than 1,500 rebels and 338 soldiers have been killed in the month-long offensive.

The rebels are fighting a 12-year war for an independent homeland for minority Tamils in the island's north and east in which more than 50,000 people have died.

The rebels have cleared out some of their arms dumps from the peninsula, fearing their capture in further army advances, and moved the caches to Kilinochchi on the mainland, across the Jaffna Lagoon, military sources said.

Tens of thousands of people displaced by the fighting have converged on Kilinochchi where aid agencies are providing food, medicine and shelter.

## British jury that convicted West moves on to sex murders

WINCHESTER, England (R) — Jurors who convicted Rose West of murdering her daughter, stepdaughter and bitter rival in love fled Wednesday to decide if she was also a depraved sex killer.

The jury, seven men and four women, returned to court at 1030 GMT Wednesday, after a second night sequestered in a hotel, and immediately went to their room to resume deliberations on seven outstanding murder charges.

The plump mother of eight showed no reaction in court Tuesday when she was found guilty of killing her eight-year-old stepdaughter Charlene in 1971 and her own first-born, Heather, in 1987 when she was 16. But she wept later in her cell.

Mrs. West is alleged to have killed seven more women, aged 15 to 21, whose bodies were dug up at her home in Gloucester, western England.

Her husband Frederick sped justice and is dead. He confessed to murder and apparently hanged himself in jail before he could stand trial.

The couple's suspected sex victims include a Christian scholar, a Swiss tourist and runaways whom they abducted, bound, gagged, kept alive for painful abuse, and killed.

Whatever the verdict, Mrs. West's fate is sealed. When she turns 42 in a week she will be facing life in prison.

Mrs. West, with big glasses and a mop of black hair, stood frozen as the jury foreman declared her guilty of killing Charlene and Heather, her first and last victims.

Muffled gasps from the public gallery echoed round the modern courtroom in the southern city of Winchester as the first ver

dicts came in Tuesday afternoon, eight weeks after the start of Britain's most lurid trial for years.

Mrs. West was led back down to the cells and as she went, tears started to stream down her face, one of her defence team said. She was "in a state of emotional upheaval and gutted", he said.

Ninety minutes later, red-eyed and puffy-faced, she re-emerged for the next blow, a guilty verdict in the case of Shirley Robinson, a bisexual teenage lodger whose attention turned from her landlady Rose to the landlord, Frederick.

"She died in 1978 with Fred's baby, due one month later, inside her. Rose had no longer been able to contain her jealousy or fury, the prosecution argued.

Fred told police he alone was responsible for Robinson's death and all the others. He also led them to the bodies of his first wife Rena and a nanny, killed in the 1960s.

But he later told a confidante he had made a pact to protect the wife he loved, and even offered up his life to her.

"All I have is my life. I will give it for you my darling," he wrote to Rose a year ago in a farewell note. "When you are ready, come to me."

Both defence and prosecution agreed Fred West, who boasted of another 20 victims as yet unfound, was a sick monster who, as the defence put it, had "opted out of the human race".

In the three counts where they reached a unanimous verdict Tuesday, the jurors believed the prosecution argument that Rose had the motive of antipathy, the opportunity, and had told the lies to prove her guilt.

**SCRUPLES**  
MEN'S SHOW

OUT OF SIGHT OUT OF MIND

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# This Week

Jordan Times, Thursday, November 23, 1995

## Hanging one more year on the line

By Jean-Claude Elias

CHIP TALK is exactly three years old this month. It is perhaps one of the longest serving, uninterrupted regular columns the Jordan Times has featured so far. Often readers, friends (and editors-in-chief as well) ask me if there are still new computer topics to cover, and what do I do to come up with a different idea every week. If they only knew! Nothing could be easier. So many things are constantly happening in the world of Information Technology (IT) that one subject a week would hardly be enough to cover all computer-related events and news. But of course, this is not a specialised magazine but a daily newspaper and its Weekender is a good place to entertain you while keeping you informed.

In the world of notebook computers for instance, the IT is currently breathing new life into these machines that some used to consider as just a little more than expensive toys. From the point of view of raw processing power notebooks have always followed closely their desk top, full-sized big brothers. Whenever a new processor was launched (like the Pentium for example), its notebook equivalent would be produced almost simultaneously.

Notebooks therefore had the power plus the advantage of portability and lightweight. The size of an A4 sheet of paper but five centimetres thick, these small wonders weigh less than four kilograms and are heaven sent for travelling businessmen, or simply for all those who would lose sleep without a computer always by their side.

The main limitations of those small computers have been mainly the quality of the display and the lack of flexibility to add optional board adapters and components. New high-end notebooks feature super high resolution colour screens, highly contrasted for clear, sharp vision and a comfortable ten-inch diagonal viewing area. There is a noticeable difference in quality (and a painful one in

## chip talk

price as well) between the dual-scan and the active colour systems, the latter being much superior to the former.

The PCMCIA (Personal Computer Memory Component Interface Adapter — enjoys the new acronym), a credit-card size adapter that plugs into a notebook's special slot, opens the door to limitless number of options that were so far the privilege of large desk top PCs. Fax cards, cellular phones, SCSI adapters (Small Computer System Interface to connect certain models of hard disk drives and CD-ROMs, scanners, and other sophisticated peripherals), MIDI music adapters, external drives, all available now to the notebook owner thanks to PCMCIA cards.

Because of the improved displays and the PCMCIA system, sales of notebooks have sharply risen since the beginning of the year. The only relative disadvantage of portable computers compared to desk top models remains the price. For the same characteristics, notebooks are about 30 per cent more expensive than regular table top units.

What will the winds of change bring us next? Whatever it may be, users, complaining of too many sudden changes should think of writers like yours truly. The same speed of change that could be viewed as a curse by some actually is a blessing for us for it carries endless amounts of ideas to write about.

— I'm sorry I couldn't get here on time.  
Aasif lam astati' al-wusool ela hona fil-waqtin  
mumaseb.

— I had to go to the dentist yesterday but I forgot all about it.

Kana alayya an ath'hab elia tabibil'asnan al-baareha, laakunna naseet kulla shay'en hawi thalek.  
— Can you show me the way to the bus-stop, please?

Hal tastati' an tureeni at-tareeq elia mawqif al-bass, min fadlik?

— You cannot leave this room until you get permission.

La tastati' an tughadir haatheli ghurfa hat'ta tabsool ala ithn.

— I'll meet you at the church at 4 p.m. on Monday next.

Sawfa oqaabilha endal kaneesa assa'a ar'rabe'a massa'an yawmuth ithnaynii muqbil.

— I always feel tired at the end of the day.

Ash'or daa'imani bitta'ab fee nehayatin'nahar.

— I think someone is knocking at the door. Go and let him in.

Athounu anna shakhsan yadokhni bab.

Ith'hab wada'hu yadkhul.

### JOKES

\* WHEN it was time for the guilty to be sentenced to death, Ashmawi, the executioner, was extremely teased every time he tried to tie the rope round the vindict's neck. The guilty person got furious and said:

"Eh, eh, what's wrong with you, man? Did you come here to hang me or to play?"

\* A FARMER once went with his wife to buy a ticket at a railway station.

FARMER: "We want two tickets?"

CLERK: "What tickets?"

Inspired by the unknown French

## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

MOHAMMAD A. SHUQAIR

FARMER: "One for a man and another for a woman!"

### FOCUS

#### THE STATUE OF LIBERTY

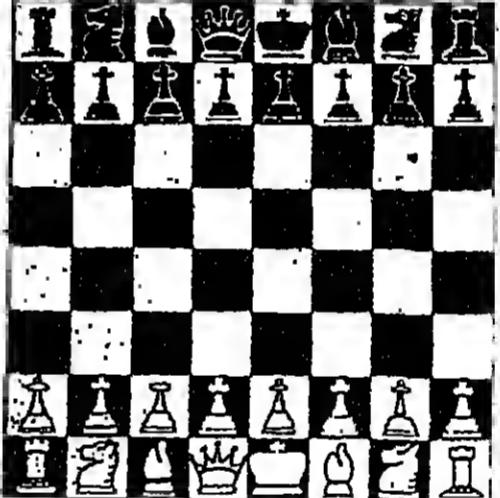
TOWERING above New York harbour, the Statue of Liberty has been a symbol of hope and freedom for millions of immigrants for nearly a century. The 305ft statue and base was a gift from the people of France, money being raised by voluntary contributions of French citizens to mark the centenary of the American Revolution in 1876.

She was inspired by an unknown girl shot down by the military whilst demonstrating for her own political freedom in the streets of Paris over 100 years ago. The sculptor, Frederic-Auguste Bartholdi, when asked to sculpt a giant statue, remembered the girl carrying a flaming torch when he saw her shot. A massive iron pylon embedded in the rock forms the backbone of the figure, inspired by the unknown French



The face is ten feet wide and forty people can stand in the interior of the head, the torch bearing arm is forty feet long and the torch platform can hold twelve people. The actual statue from foot to torch is 152ft and weighs 450,000 lbs and stands on a 62ft square base, the overall height is 305 ft ins (nearly as high as St. Paul's Cathedral) and erection was dedicated by President Grover Cleveland in 1886.

### HOBBIES



CHESS is an ancient game of uncertain origin; it seems

Thursday, Nov. 23, 1995

## JTV CHANNEL TWO WEEKLY PREVIEW

Saturday, Nov. 25, 1995

9:30 Heartbeat  
10:00 News In English  
10:25 Counter Strike  
11:15 Anastasia  
12:00 My Two Wives

Monday, Nov. 27, 1995

2:00 Shelly Duvall's Bedtime Stories  
2:30 Play About  
2:45 Hey Dad  
3:05 Nature World Of Mitsuaki  
4:00 The Adventures Of The Black Stallion  
4:30 Sky Trackers  
5:00 French Programme  
Fractales  
5:30 Magazine  
Omnisciences  
6:00 Drama  
Cest Mon Histoire  
7:00 Le Journal  
7:15 Magazine  
Faut Pas Rever  
7:30 News Headlines  
7:35 Major Dad  
8:00 First Flights  
8:25 The Bold And The Beautiful  
9:10 Star Trek — The Next Generation  
10:00 News In English  
10:25 Movie: "All Night Long"  
Starring: Gene Hackman & Barbara Streisand  
11:50 L'histoire Secrete Du Petrole  
12:30 My Good Friend

7:35 You Bet Your Life  
8:00 The Secret Of The Treasure Islands  
8:25 The Bold And The Beautiful  
9:10 True Blue  
10:00 News In English  
10:30 Movie: "Gun Smoke"  
Starring: James Arness & Milburn Stone  
12:00 Never Come Back (Part II)

Wednesday, Nov. 29, 1995

2:00 Inspector Gadget  
2:55 Ghost Writer  
3:00 Tomorrow's World  
3:30 Amazing Stories  
4:00 The Adventures Of The Black Stallion  
4:30 Sky Trackers  
5:00 French Programme  
Fractales  
5:30 Jeux  
Le Trophée Campus  
7:00 Le Journaux  
7:15 Magazine  
Sports Et Musique  
7:30 News Headlines  
7:35 Anything For A Laugh  
8:00 Amazing Races  
8:25 The Bold And The Beautiful  
9:10 Star Trek — The Next Generation  
10:00 News In English  
10:25 Prism  
10:45 Law And Order  
11:30 Second Thoughts

Friday, Nov. 24, 1995

Sunday, Nov. 26, 1995

Tuesday, Nov. 28, 1995

2:00 Captain Planet  
M.A.N.T.I.S.  
3:15 Run The Gauntlet  
4:00 The Adventures Of The Black Stallion  
4:30 Sky Trackers  
5:00 French Programme  
Fractales  
5:30 Serie  
Fruits Et Legumes  
6:00 Documentary  
Croisiere A La Decouverte Du Monde  
7:00 Le Journal  
7:15 Magazine  
Ushuaia  
7:30 News Headlines

1:00 The Little Mermaids

1:30 Beethoven

1:45 Lift-Off

2:00 Bush School

2:25 Space Rangers

3:15 Goldrush In Alaska

4:05 Movies, Games And Videos

5:00 French Programme

Sophie Et Virginie

5:30 Telefilm

Soleil D'Automne

7:00 Le Journaux

7:15 Magazine

Sports Et Musique

7:30 News Headlines

7:35 Coach

8:00 Natural Wonders Of Europe

8:45 America's Funniest People

9:10 Wolf

10:00 News In English

10:25 Pride And Prejudice (Part II)

11:30 Movie — "Anna Karenina"

Starring: Greta Garbo & Frederic March



## U.K. celebrates 100 years of cinema

By Jim Kelsey

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**All the historic films will be screened authentically using equipment from the 1890s. Other U.K. inventions include a copy of the first colour film, Kinemacolor, patented by George Albert Smith in 1906, and Eugene Lauste's "sound on film" systems**

**At London's Museum of Sydney-Wood film studio to be one of the world biggest**

**SYDNEY (AFP) — Media magnate Rupert Murdoch is to build the biggest film studios in the world outside Hollywood on a prime site in New South Wales, will generate 1,600 direct and indirect jobs a year and generate around \$85 million in production, Mr. Carr said.**

**Details of the project, described by Mr. Carr as "a major win for this country," were revealed as 300 demonstrators stopped the traffic on the street outside his state parliament to protest about the studios.**

**Most were residents of homes surrounding the land, formerly the Sydney Showground, who object to film studio and entertainment complex already**

**dubbed "Sydney-Wood", complete with fast food outlets and noisy fun-shows.**

**The project, which represents an 11-year, \$120 million investment for New South Wales, will generate 1,600 direct and indirect jobs a year and generate around \$85 million in production, Mr. Carr said.**

**The total value to the state would exceed \$200 million a year after five years and the complex would make Sydney home to "the biggest film studios in the world outside the United States," he said.**

**"This is a strategic gain in planning and investment terms for the state."**

**Mr. Murdoch, chairman of News Corp., would pay a**

**minimum of \$2 million, or five per cent of gross yearly takings, whichever is greater, subject to a four-year review.**

**The Australian-born tycoon would also benefit from what Mr. Carr described as a "modest" \$7.8 million incentive package including land tax, payroll and stamp duty concessions.**

**The 40-year lease, which is expected to be signed shortly, would commence from early next year, with a 10-year option.**

**Mr. Carr said the studio would be fully operational by the end of 1997.**

**The first group would begin paying rent from when it took full occupation of the site in 1999.**

**The film studios would occupy not less than 10 hectares (25 acres) of the 29 hectare (72 acre) site with an additional three or four hectares to be occupied by the entertainment complex.**

**Mr. Carr told reporters he was confident critics of the project — including those demonstrating on the street outside — would be silenced when they saw the benefits inherent in the development.**

**"It will be like every other significant project," Mr. Carr said. "When it's finished and when people see it they'll be delighted, and that goes for people who live in the region."**

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**California to establish Hollywood. But it was D.W. Griffith's 1915 epic, "Birth of a Nation," that revolutionised movie making. With imaginative lighting the director introduced the close-up, the flash-back, fade-in, fade-out and the star system. Mary Pickford was the first actress to receive world adulation followed by Valentino, Lillian Gish, Gloria Swanson and passionate vamps such as Theda Bara, Nazimova, Zasu Pitts and Pearl White.**

**By 1927, the industry was already well established in the U.K., Europe and America when Al Jolson blacked his face and got on his knees to sing Mammy in "The Jazz Singer." The silent movies with their piano accompaniment and screen titles were overt "talkies" became big business. Although the MOMI story does not mention it, films became the most potent persuader of social behaviour ever invented by man. Hollywood taught the world to smoke, influenced life styles, hair styles and fashion and still remains one of the most powerful propaganda machines of all time.**

**Like the adjacent two National Film Theatres which will also be holding centenary programmes, the £12 million glass-and-steel, three-floored MOMI is ingeniously housed beneath the arches of Waterloo Bridge on London's South Bank. With its own cinema and 44 exhibition areas — replicas of early make-shift studios vie for attention with ticket booths for "the twopenny rush," costumes, the antics of Chaplin and**



Birt Acres, pipe in hand, sits on top of a carriage arriving at what is believed to be a photographic club in Barnet, near London, where he gave the first presentation of films in Britain on Jan. 10, 1896. Acres, who had worked with Robert William Paul in developing projectors, quarreled with his colleague and retired from the infant film industry.

Buster Keaton — MOMI is a cineaste's delight. It has its own company of actors who play directors, cameramen and make-up artists who, besides preparing you for a screen test, will rehearse you for that famed cinematic line: "I'm ready for my close-up, Mr. De Mille" — London Press Service Feature.

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# Health & Medicine

Jordan Times, Thursday, November 23, 1995

## Scientists tap brain hormones that enhance memory

By Karen Lowe

Agence France Presse  
LOS ANGELES — Adrenalin-pumping experiences like war, rape and serious accidents crystallise memories, and now University of California scientists are developing drugs to stimulate or suppress recall.

Two scientists at the University of California at Irvine (UCI) say drugs can be used to stimulate and, perhaps, suppress the "stress hormone" produced by the amygdala portion of the brain that enhances memory.

The link between emotional stress and memory was established by James

McGaugh, UCI's director of Centre for Neurobiology of Learning and Memory while researcher Larry Cahill isolated the hormone's effect in humans.

New drugs now under development by pharmaceutical companies in cooperation with scientists could someday stimulate hormones to improve the memory of victims of Alzheimer's disease, brain damage and aging.

Conversely, Mr. Cahill plans to test drugs soon that block production of the stress hormones in the hopes of reducing the emotional impact of horrifying memories.

This could someday help, for example, police or rescue workers at a serious plane crash who are unable to shake the recurring, gruesome mental images of body parts, rendering them incapable of working, Mr. McGaugh said.

Between one and 14 per cent of the country's population of 262 million people suffer post-traumatic stress that includes serious mental ailments due to haunting memories from a traumatic experience, Mr. Cahill said.

And up to 60 per cent of the population have suffered some kind of trauma like rape, a crash, a mugging or even ugly divorces that

cause recurring nightmares and lingering distress, Mr. McGaugh said.

With available drugs as well as those being developed, Mr. McGaugh said, "it should be possible to block or reduce those strong and lasting memories."

"This is certainly going to happen," said Mr. McGaugh, who began using rats to test his theories on the relation between strong emotions and heightened memory some 40 years ago as a graduate student.

Drugs can take up to 10 years to pass through the research and development stage and the rigorous protocol of the federal drug

administration before they are marketed commercially, Mr. McGaugh said.

Shaping emotion and recall is the stuff of science fiction and producing a memory-altering drug poses ethical questions that Mr. McGaugh wants answered before the drug hits the market.

"Who's to say who should take a drug and how do we keep it from being widely abused by people who don't need it? I want an edge?" Mr. McGaugh asked.

There is also the delicate matter of dosage, Mr. McGaugh said. At one level some experimental drugs now being used can heighten

memory but once the dosage crosses a certain threshold, they can be toxic.

UCI established the link between heightened memory and emotions by conducting a study in which one group of people was told a moving, slide-illustrated story about a critically injured boy who underwent surgery to reattach his feet.

The other group was given a blander version in which the boy simply watched a disaster drill and went home. Half of each group was given the drug Propranolol to block the stress hormone prior to the experiment.

But through a colleague in Germany, Mr. Cahill found one of only several known victims of a genetically damaged amygdala. Tests showed that without the

stress hormone the memory was no longer stimulated by emotionally-charged events.

"I am in new territory," said the 35-year-old Cahill. "I credit myself with being an explorer. But I must be very cautious."

On the near horizon, Mr. Cahill will work with the Veterans Administration in Long Beach to give the drugs to women who have been sexually assaulted shortly after the attack and before painful memories have been deeply imprinted over time.

"This will be an actual test of our work," he said. "It has a high chance of success with a low level of risk."

## Women with cystic fibrosis having babies

By Mary Esch  
The Associated Press

GLEN FALLS, New York — Having struggled with cystic fibrosis (CF) all her life, Sharon Dingman knew pregnancy would be risky. Even if she succeeded in having a baby, she might not live to see her child through grade school.

After all, when she was diagnosed at birth with the incurable, smothering disease, she wasn't expected even to live through childhood. When she met her husband, John, medical advances had stretched the life expectancy for people with cystic fibrosis to 21 years. She was 21 already.

"All the accounts I had read about pregnancy and CF were very negative," said Mrs. Dingman, now 26. "The women often died within the first year of giving birth, or got very sick during pregnancy."

As she spoke, her fingers trailed over the silky hair and chubby toes of her infant son, Ian. He was born June 11 at Albany Medical Centre Hospital.

The birth was celebrated as one of the first for a woman with CF in the hospital's 146-year history. Within several weeks, two more mothers with CF gave birth to healthy babies.

Dr. Anthony Malanga, head of pulmonary medicine at the hospital, said the successful pregnancies signify optimism

that CF patients can live full lives if their symptoms are carefully controlled through new treatments.

Cystic fibrosis is the most common inherited disease among Caucasians. One in 20 people carry the gene responsible for the disorder, and one in 2,000 babies have CF, according to Dr. David M. Orenstein, director of the cystic fibrosis centre at the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh.

A few decades ago, most children with CF died before their second birthday, Dr. Orenstein said. Now the life expectancy is near age 30, with many people surviving into their 40s.

The disease causes the lungs to become clogged with thick, sticky mucus that provides a breeding ground for bacteria, leading to frequent infections such as bronchitis and pneumonia.

Patients require continuous antibiotics to stave off infection, and daily physical therapy to expel mucus. They are frequently hospitalised when an infection sets in.

The pancreas is also affected, causing problems absorbing nutrients from food. Thus, people with CF are usually thin and often malnourished.

Therapeutic advancements include new antibiotics, mucus-thinners and anti-inflammatory drugs, improved methods of loosening and expelling mucus, and enzyme tablets to improve nutrition.

Joanne Washburn, 24, who lives 48 kilometres east of the

Dingmans in Hoosick Falls, had to contend with the threat of miscarriage caused by a weak cervix as well as the debilitating symptoms of CF.

"I grew up wanting a family," she said. "The doctor said it would be hard to get pregnant," because the thick mucus of CF hinders conception. A year after she married her husband Tim, she discovered she was pregnant.

Terrified sick with CF symptoms and unable to gain weight, Mrs. Washburn lost her first baby. She had another miscarriage a year later.

During her third pregnancy, she developed asthma and was hospitalised three times for lung infections.

"Toward the end of the pregnancy I got so big it restricted my breathing," she said. "They put me in an oxygen tent at 29 weeks."

Her son Andrew was born by caesarean section six weeks prematurely on June 20.

Caring for a newborn as well as herself is difficult, said Mrs. Washburn, who doesn't work outside the home. She spends four to six hours a day giving herself treatments with bronchodilators, antibiotics, steroids, mucus-thinners and chest-pounding exercises that help her cough up secretions.

Mrs. Dingman, who works full time as a respiratory therapist, and her husband, who manages a shoe store, said they rely on help from their extended families within the community.

Both infants tested negative for CF. The parents were offered genetic testing to determine the odds of passing the disorder on.

If both parents had CF, the child also would have it. If the father was a carrier of one of the 32 most common defects in the CF gene, there would be a 50 per cent chance the child would inherit the disease. If the father tested negative, there would be a one-in-500 chance the child would have CF.

If the mother's lung function is good, pregnancy doesn't make cystic fibrosis progress more rapidly, said Dr. Renee Samuelson, a high-risk obstetrician at the medical centre.

"But if pulmonary function is low," Dr. Samuelson said, "the stress of pregnancy can cause respiratory problems for both the mother and baby."

Mothers with CF may have trouble meeting the fetus' nutritional needs as well as her own, Dr. Samuelson said, and there is an increased risk of diabetes.

Medical researchers hope gene therapy will cure CF by replacing the defective gene with a normal one, Dr. Malanga said. Scientists already have constructed the corrected gene, he said, but have not found the right "biological syringe," such as a virus, to carry the gene into the patient.

## Study finds fainting a sign of possible health problems

By Daniel Q. Haney  
The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, California — People who faint face a substantially higher than normal risk of heart attacks and death, according to the largest U.S. study of fainting.

Although fainting can be a sign of heart trouble and stroke, these conditions did not appear to appear at a higher risk associated with what doc-

tors call syncope.

The research, conducted by Dr. Ming Hui Chen and colleagues from the Framingham Heart Study in Massachusetts, was presented at the annual scientific meeting of the American Heart Association.

"If you are young and don't have any risk for heart disease or stroke, your prognosis is really pretty good," Dr. Chen said. "But there is morbidity and mortality

associated with syncope, even if it seems to be a benign case."

The researchers looked at episodes of fainting among the 8,200 residents of Framingham, Massachusetts, who participate in the study and get physical exams every other year.

The researchers believe this provides the first accurate estimate of just how common fainting really is. They identified 801 episodes of fainting among

543 people between 1971 and 1990.

They said this works out to nine episodes of fainting for every 1,000 years of life.

Dr. Chen said this makes fainting considerably less common than was suggested by earlier studies based on less broad cross-sections, such as people going to emergency rooms.

During the 19 years studied, those who fainted were

39 per cent more likely to suffer a heart attack or die from coronary heart disease.

About one-quarter of the faints were caused by stress, the so-called vasovagal episodes, such as passing out while giving blood. In one-third of the cases, doctors could not pinpoint the cause. Other less common causes of fainting include heart trouble and strokes. The study also found that

fainting is rare until about age 65.

Among other reports pre-

sent at the meeting:

— Doctors from City Hospital in Birmingham, England, found a strong link between infection with chlamydia, a common sexually transmitted disease, and stroke. They found that 48 per cent of stroke victims tested had been exposed to chlamydia during their lives, compared with 20 per

cent of people hospitalised for other reasons.

— Scans with electron beam CT machines, which look for calcium deposits in the heart arteries, are proving to be an effective way to spot heart trouble. In a study at the University of California at Los Angeles, Ireland, doctors scanned 519 people. The seven who died the following year all had substantially higher than average amounts of calcium in their arteries.

### WEEKEND CROSSWORD

LIVING UP TO THEIR NAMES  
By Norma Steinberg

**ACROSS**

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22 Singer's name  
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# Features

23, 1995

JORDAN TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23-24, 1995

## Quake jolts Middle East

(Continued from page 1)

northeast Cairo suburb of Heliopolis and one in the southern city of Assuit. A young Jordanian man broke his leg jumping out of a window and a woman in the Egyptian city of Suez did the same running down stairs.

In Saudi Arabia a Pakistani worker was killed when a chunk of cement fell on him in the Gulf of Aqaba city of Haqil, while a five-year-old child died in nearby Bida. Twenty others were injured. The earthquake was centered on the Gulf of Aqaba, off Dahab in the Sinai.

It was felt in Israel, Egypt, Jordan, Gaza, Lebanon, Syria and Saudi Arabia.

Most of the other injuries were in Eilat, where 13 people were treated, mostly for cuts. At a student hostel in Assuit seven people were injured in a stampede to get out.

The quake, which lasted more than one minute from 6:15 a.m. (0415 GMT), woke people all over the Middle East.

Throughout Israel, frightened citizens called police, ambulance services and fire stations. In Palestinian-ruled Gaza city witnesses said people fled their homes.

But in Cairo, where more than 500 people were killed in an earthquake in 1992, residents showed little sign of panic, despite masonry falling into the street in parts of the city.

A four-storey building collapsed in the heavily populated suburb of Shoubra but it had been evacuated months earlier because building inspectors said it was unsafe.

In central Cairo, the top three metres of a minaret fell on to the street in a mass of tangled concrete and steel but no one was there to be hurt.

Israeli army radio, reporting from Eilat, said police

## One killed in Aqaba quake

(Continued from page 1)

Aqaba distributed pamphlets in schools and institutions to calm the citizens down after the Seismological Centre in Amman assured them that there was no more danger.

The earthquake, which was centred 110 kilometres south of Aqaba, was also felt throughout the Kingdom, Zuhair Al Issa, professor of geophysics at the University of Jordan, said.

"Our engineers are checking the damage at the moment, but we think it will run into millions of dollars," he said.

"It was awful, it was terrible. And now everyone is afraid there will be another one."

A spokeswoman for the Eilat municipality said that at least 50 houses and apartments and up to eight hotels had been damaged. The main road leading to the hotels was also cracked.

"Our engineers are checking the damage at the moment, but we think it will run into millions of dollars," she said.

Israeli army radio, reporting from Eilat, said police

closed a road in the city where a crack 400 metres long had appeared. Tourists evacuated hotels and dozens of houses were damaged, water pipes broke and power was cut briefly.

The Israeli news agency ITIM said ultra-orthodox Rabbis in Safed had warned of an earthquake and special prayers were offered in synagogues on Tuesday night to ward off disaster.

At Eilat, electricity was cut, hotels were evacuated and some buildings were damaged.

A spokeswoman for the Sport Hotel said: "One guest, an Israeli man who was quite old, got frightened and had a heart attack" and died.

Dr. Zvi Epstein, director of the Yosef Hospital, said a 67-year-old Israeli was brought dead to the hospital after suffering from a heart attack. Guests at the hotel where the man died said he had carried his invalid wife down flights of stairs.

Mr. Epstein said a second man was hospitalized in serious condition, suffering from an asthma attack and 12 others were treated for shock, chest pains and other minor injuries.

"It felt like the walls were moving and the bricks were falling out, we wanted it to stop, and called to God please make it stop," said Eilat resident Judy Meshulam.

"It was awful, it was terrible. And now everyone is afraid there will be another one."

A spokeswoman for the Eilat municipality said that at least 50 houses and apartments and up to eight hotels had been damaged. The main road leading to the hotels was also cracked.

"Our engineers are checking the damage at the moment, but we think it will run into millions of dollars," she said.



A group of Iraqi women try to obtain medicine for their children (AFP photo)

## Iraq lobbies to soften U.N.'s oil terms

By Leon Barkho  
Reuter

BAGHDAD — Pressure is mounting on Iraq to accept United Nations terms allowing it to sell limited amounts of oil to pay for badly needed food and Baghdad is eager to find a compromise formula, diplomats said.

Facing acute food shortages and dwindling supplies of medicine, Iraq is hoping to have some of the U.N. terms allowing it to sell limited amounts of oil softened or removed, the diplomats said.

Iraq has repeatedly rejected the U.N. conditions for it to sell limited amounts of oil to pay for humanitarian needs as a violation of its sovereignty.

Asked if other earthquakes are likely to hit the country in the near future, Dr. Al Issa said that there was a chance that further quakes could occur but they would not be destructive.

"Nobody can rule out the occurrence of further tremors but they would not be destructive, as we assume, the main shock has already occurred," he added.

The last major earthquake and the first scientifically recorded geophysical movement in the region struck the area in July 1977. It measured 6 on the Richter scale, killed about 300 people and caused heavy damage in Jericho.

The quakes in the region are linked to the "Arabian Plate" which stretches from the southern part of the Arabian Peninsula to Turkey through the Dead Sea-Wadi Araba-Jordan Valley region.

Ruins in Jerash indicate that the ancient Greco-Roman city was destroyed in an earthquake linked to the movement of the Arabian Plate.

bers of the U.N. Security Council, are pressing Baghdad to accept the conditions.

"An interesting dialogue is taking place. Iraq is desperate to buy food and medicine and the world cannot just watch as millions of Iraqis continue suffering from sanctions," said one diplomat.

Iraqis are struggling under crippling U.N. sanctions — imposed after the August 1990 invasion of Kuwait — putting the question of limited oil sales under sharper focus.

"Starvation may not occur as long as the government has the ability to provide rations. But once that ability is not there, famine will strike," Iraq's U.N. coordinator, Mohammad Zejbar, told Reuters.

Denis Bouchard, head of

the Middle East Section at the French foreign ministry, met Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz and Foreign Minister Mohammad Saeed Al Sahaf on Monday in a bid to persuade Baghdad to agree to the U.N. terms on oil sales.

France, Russia and China, perceived as being more sympathetic among major powers to Iraq, have urged one to agree to the U.N. mission in the country.

U.N. inspectors need to sift through hundreds of thousands of written pages of data, part of Iraq's startling revelations made following the defection in August to Jordan of Lieutenant-General Hussein Kamel Hassan, the mastermind behind Iraq's military and civil industries.

The Arab League was also trying to persuade Iraq to enter into direct negotiations with the U.N. to discuss its terms for partial oil sales, the diplomats added.

Recent events, including insight into Iraq's military machine by two senior defectors in August, placed Iraq under greater U.N. scrutiny. Coupled with

humanitarian needs these factors are apparently pushing Baghdad to seek a compromise solution with the U.N., the diplomats said.

The U.N. Special Commission (UNSCOM) disarming Iraq under the 1991 Gulf war ceasefire said more time and effort would be needed to complete its mission in the country.

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at least one year if not more," said a diplomat.

Senior Iraqi officials have hinted that they would agree to limited oil sales worth \$1 billion every three months if conditions they say violate Iraq's sovereignty were revised.

"There is a sense of frustration in Baghdad. They (officials) say the U.N. is paying no attention to their demands. It is merely dictating them," said another diplomat.

"In my opinion, there is a chance that Iraq may agree, but not before some of its demands are addressed," he said. "Of course they will be happy if no curbs are attached but that is really far fetched at the moment."

Iraq would like the U.N. to lift the oil embargo by

tribution of food and also give it some freedom to decide the export outlets.

It insists that its acceptance of any sales should not delay implementation of a paragraph in the major ceasefire resolution allowing it free oil sales once UNSCOM completes its mission.

Baghdad also wants any shipments of food to its Kurdish rebels foes in northern Iraq to be under its supervision.

The Iraqi dinar steadied on Tuesday on news that Mr. Bouchard was trying to persuade Iraqi leaders to sell limited amounts of oil under U.N. conditions.

Baghdad traders said demand for the U.S. dollar slackened and food prices suddenly stopped surging when news spread of Mr. Bouchard's arrival.

## Abandoned children face grim life in Russia

By Susanne Hoell  
Reuter

MOSCOW — Tima was four years old when he started living rough. His mother drank, his father was in prison. He slept alone in rat-infested cellars in the north of Moscow and caused heavy damage in Jericho.

The quakes in the region are linked to the "Arabian Plate" which stretches from the southern part of the Arabian Peninsula to Turkey through the Dead Sea-Wadi Araba-Jordan Valley region.

Ruins in Jerash indicate that the ancient Greco-Roman city was destroyed in an earthquake linked to the movement of the Arabian Plate.

private children's home in the northern Moscow district of Yushnoye Medvedkovo.

"But we have found a family in the country which will take her in."

Tima and Lesia are two of perhaps hundreds of thousands of neglected, abandoned and abused Russian children.

But they are the lucky ones — housed and fed in a former state kindergarten now transformed by Britain's Waverly Trust charity into a children's home.

Maria Gaidash, a deputy in the State Duma Lower House of parliament, said recently some two million Russian children under 14 suffered physical or mental abuse.

"We never thought we could find anyone to look after her again," said Brian Brettell, a British social worker who now runs a

Gazeta, painting a grim picture of violence, poverty and social disintegration in post-communist Russia.

Gaidash, a member of the centre-left Women of Russia Party, said about 50,000 children fled their homes each year and 2,000 killed themselves rather than face their up to their tragic domestic circumstances.

She urged the public and parliament to spend more money to fight domestic violence and to provide more help for children from broken or dysfunctional homes. The 170 shelters for abused and abandoned children in Russia were not enough, she said.

But they are the lucky ones — housed and fed in a former state kindergarten now transformed by Britain's Waverly Trust charity into a children's home.

Maria Gaidash, a deputy in the State Duma Lower House of parliament, said recently some two million Russian children under 14 suffered physical or mental abuse.

"Up to 10 per cent of them die," she told the newspaper Nezavisimaya

cov district where his children's home occupies a two-storey building surrounded by high-rise apartment blocks.

"There are some 150,000 people living here — and among them about 2,000 children who need help," said Brettell, a teacher from northern England, who previously worked in London and Glasgow.

Some 60 of them now live in family-like groups in the old kindergarten. They study in classes as small as five or six pupils, learn singing and computers, play games and run ebulliently around the big, now snow-covered garden.

Most still show signs of their former ordeal. Some look smaller than their age and Brettell said many had behavioural, learning and

nervous problems. There have been two or three cases of drug addiction.

The children themselves are reluctant to talk about their past. But they clearly enjoy their new life away from the streets and cellars, where they were often injured and abused.

"They help us here. It's nice. We have lots of friends," said Oxana, one of the girls in the home.

Economic reforms, which started in Russia in 1992, have led to poverty and unemployment. The welfare system is groaning at the seals and people in need often have to seek help from families and friends because the state can no longer provide.

Officials figures say 40 million Russians earn less than the minimum needed

to survive.

Brettell said his Russian colleagues always complained about the lack of money, but he insisted homes like his could be run on a reasonable budget.

He employs 62 people — social workers, teachers, cooks, cleaners and guards — buys food and clothes for the children, and organizes outings from a monthly budget of about \$20,000.

"That is not much more than \$300 per child a month."

But nearly everyday he has to turn away children seeking a refuge. He said he expected the situation to get worse in the next few years, with politicians closing their eyes to the social situation.

"Politicians here put their head in the sand," he said.

## Anti-abortion forces supreme in Republican party

By Alan Elsner  
Reuter

WASHINGTON — The collapse of Pennsylvania Sen. Arlen Specter's U.S. presidential campaign confirms the dominance of anti-abortion forces in the Republican Coalition for Choice.

"They now have full control of the party in 14 states and partial control in several more," she said.

Mary Crisp, a former co-chair of the Republican Party, said abortion rights supporters had no one to blame but themselves. "We haven't organized ourselves. We stood on the sidelines and left a vacuum and the anti-abortion forces have moved in to fill it," she said.

Specter campaign officials said the three-term senator would firmly end his bid for the Republican

politics every minute of their spare time. Weekends, they take their kids to baseball games and soccer tournaments. The right-wingers take their kids to political conventions," said Ann Stone of the Republican Coalition for Choice.

"They now have full control of the party in 14 states and partial control in several more," she said.

Mary Crisp, a former co-chair of the Republican Party, said abortion rights supporters had no one to blame but themselves. "We haven't organized ourselves. We stood on the sidelines and left a vacuum and the anti-abortion forces have moved in to fill it," she said.

Specter campaign officials said the three-term senator would firmly end his bid for the Republican

and supports the right of states to restrict the procedure.

None of these three has explicitly ruled out picking a defender of abortion rights as their vice presidential running mate. But that is not the case for two other candidates with substantial support of activists — conservative commentator Pat Buchanan and radio talk show host Alan Keyes.

Both have made opposition to abortion the centerpiece of their campaigns. Mr. Buchanan said last week he would "impose" his anti-abortion agenda on the nation. He wants to enact legislation declaring that life begins at conception.

Texas Sen. Phil Gramm says he would end federal funding of abortion and of groups that advocate it and support actions of states to restrict abortion rights gradually. Former Tennessee Gov. Lamar Alexander says he is against any federal government involvement in abortions, either for or against, but he personally believes abortion is wrong.

"Our supporters don't do

last month when California Gov. Pete Wilson's presidential campaign collapsed in a welter of debt.

But the big letdown occurred two weeks ago when retired army Gen. Colin Powell decided not to run for the Republican presidential nomination.

Abortion rights activists had been thrilled that Powell, who said he supported a woman's right to choose, was riding high in the polls even among Republicans. They said this proved conclusively where the true moderate heart of the party lay. Now, these voters have nowhere to go.

"I just don't know what to do now. If I had to vote today, the abortion issue would keep me at home," said Elizabeth Hager, a New Hampshire Republican activist who formerly

served in the state legislature.

In the 1992 presidential election, 30 per cent of Republican women deserted the party. Polls continue to show that far fewer women than men support the Republicans.

Moderates still want to press ahead with an effort to take abortion out of the official party platform and are viewing a fight at next year's Republican nominating convention. They pin their hopes on prominent Republican governors like Christine Todd Whitman of New Jersey and William Weld of Massachusetts to lead the fight.

But the party is unlikely to go against the wishes of its presidential nominee. Most party insiders believe the anti-abortion plank is there to stay.

# Economy

JORDAN TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23-24, 1995

## Jordan to ease foreign ownership rules soon

**B: Suleiman Al Khalidi**

Reuter

AMMAN — Jordan will soon pass a law that will allow full foreign ownership in some business ventures, the head of a new government body to approve investment said Wednesday.

"The new byelaw will open the door virtually 100 per cent, with the exception of certain sectors in the media, education, retailing and transport," Taleb Al Rifai, general manager of the Investment Promotion Corporation, told Reuters in an interview.

He said the Cabinet would soon announce the byelaw, defining limits on foreign ownership but giving the government flexibility for exceptions. It is a key element of a liberal investment law passed in October.

Foreign investment in the more than 100 listed firms in

the Amman Financial Market and in other industrial ventures has been on hold awaiting the byelaw.

"We have done the major part of reviewing our laws, but its lower level that is very important, it will be the test of our success," Dr. Rifai said.

Foreign and local investors have long complained of red tape they must be eliminated if Jordan is to attract foreign capital.

A total of 107 projects involving both local and foreign investors with a total capital of \$270.3 million dinars (\$381 million) were approved in the first eight months of 1995 under the previous law.

However, multi-million dollar joint ventures for Jordan were in the pipeline after the Middle East and North Africa Summit in Amman last month, Dr. Rifai said. He said most interest was in using Jordan as a hub for regional markets.

the test would be the readiness of government bodies to meet the deadline.

"We have done the major part of reviewing our laws, but its lower level that is very important, it will be the test of our success," Dr. Rifai said.

Foreign and local investors have long complained of red tape they must be eliminated if Jordan is to attract foreign capital.

A total of 107 projects involving both local and foreign investors with a total capital of \$270.3 million dinars (\$381 million) were approved in the first eight months of 1995 under the previous law.

However, multi-million dollar joint ventures for Jordan were in the pipeline after the Middle East and North Africa Summit in Amman last month, Dr. Rifai said. He said most interest was in using Jordan as a hub for regional markets.

## Commission warns of sharp slowdown in EU economy

BRUSSELS (AFP) — The European Commission warned Wednesday of a sharp slowdown in the economy of the European Union (EU) over the next year that will make it harder for countries to get their public finances under control in time to qualify for a single European currency.

According to the commission's twice yearly report on the convergence of EU economies, Britain, France, Germany and Luxembourg will meet the Maastricht Treaty's debt and deficit targets by the end of 1997, when the EU is due to decide on which countries can take part in monetary union.

Another four countries, (Denmark, Finland, Ireland and the Netherlands) will have a public deficit below three per cent of GDP, but their national debts would still be above Maastricht's 60 per cent of GDP threshold.

England and Sweden are both within striking distance of the deficit target but need to amend current policies with spending cuts or tax increases equivalent to 0.5 per cent of GDP.

"In this forecast there is a good prospect of achieving our aim of deciding to switch to a single currency by Jan. 1, 1999 at the latest," Finance Commissioner Yves-Thibault de Silguy said, presenting the forecast.

The commission report envisages growth of 2.7 per cent this year, slowing to 2.6 per cent in 1996. That is sharply down from spring forecasts of 3.1 per cent for this year and 2.9 per cent in 1996.

Despite Ms. De Silguy's upbeat assessment of the prospects for monetary union, the report warned of a danger that current uncertainty could generate a "self-reinforcing spiral of weak sentiment".

The commission attributed the anticipated slower growth to a natural cyclical pause after the strong recovery seen over the last two years in the EU states.

By the end of next year, the EU's executive expects annualised growth to be running close to three per cent again.

The slowdown is not expected to have an impact on unemployment but will help to bring down inflation.

The unemployment rate is predicted to fall from 10.7 per cent of the workforce in 1995 to 10.1 per cent next year, unchanged from the spring forecast.

Inflation however is anticipated to finish this year at 3.1 per cent and fall to 3.0 per cent in 1996. In the spring, Ms. De Silguy forecast inflation of 3.2 per cent for both years.

In France's case, for example,

the forecast of a 2.9 per cent deficit in 1997 assumes that recent drastic spending cuts will be successfully implemented, despite considerable public resistance. Without France, monetary union is widely regarded as politically unfeasible.

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### THE Daily Crossword by Virginia Yates

ACROSS

1 Gibberish

5 Maid

9 — sabe  
(Tonto's words)

13 Get the knots out

15 Wine flask

16 Charles or Burl

17 Had in mind

18 Lal. abbr.

19 Breton, for one

20 Give the go-ahead

22 Spot for Sonny Boy

23 Montand

24 Pontificate

26 Rat

33 Muslim bigwig

31 Pastiche

32 Rib

35 Computerese

39 Debt securities

41 Patriotic group:

abbr.

42 Get the lead out

43 Slow, to Solti

44 Pit—

46 Looming

47 Word on a nickel

49 Football players' group

51 Bee or Elizabeth

53 Twit

55 Roll up

56 Add one's two bits' worth

52 Baltic port

53 Have — to grind

54 Vikings

55 Lode loads

66 Vain

67 Dig (with 'nto')

68 Fit

69 Cottontail mom's

70 Bribes

DOWN

1 Begs

2 — day (doseage)

3 Legal delay

4 Clue

5 Lemur's partner

6 Some voices

7 Boom from the mast

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70

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SLOKE	PHIL	GAIT
SEDIM	RARA	AGRA
STEEP	OREM	RIOT
SAVE	ONES	BACON
RET	ARI	
EGGON	GONES	FACE
IDLER	ORTS	AXE
MEAT	PURGE	BRET
PIMS	BALM	COPRA
	ASWARM	MASTODON
ERA	TEAR	ENATE
BREAKFAST	CLUB	
ROOK	EAST	EELER
DONAL	EDIE	DANNY
DENY	TEAR	ENATE

53 Fusty  
54 Turns thumbs down  
55 — This Moment On"

57 Negate  
58 Troubles  
59 Flat plinth  
60 Invitation letters  
61 Poor grades

## World trade appeals body to be set up by month end

GENEVA (R) — An appeals body that will be the final arbiter in international trade disputes will be set up by the end of this month, completing creation of key bodies of the new World Trade Organisation (WTO), diplomats said.

The way was cleared for establishment of the seven-member WTO appellate body Monday when European Union (EU) foreign ministers backed off demands that two experts in the panel should come from the 15-nation grouping.

"This is very welcome, and it will clear the slate so that the WTO can start the new year with all its institutions in place," said one key envoy to the body — launched on Jan. 1 to replace the old General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Trade sources and diplomats said the long-delayed formal approval of the panel line-up — including one expert from the EU and one from the United States — would probably be given on or around Nov. 28.

Apart from the EU and

U.S. experts, trade and legal specialists from Japan, New Zealand, Egypt, the Philippines and Uruguay will now sit on the body.

For each appeal against decisions in disputes by lower-level WTO panels, three members of the body will be called to make a ruling. Their decision will be final and if member states refuse to abide by the outcome they will face WTO-approved sanctions.

The composition of the team, on which both Washington and Brussels originally sought two seats, has to be approved by the WTO's Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) which is the forum where trade squabbles are initially discussed.

The diplomats said the DSB, which had tentatively planned a meeting for this week but with no set date in order to avoid giving the impression it was trying to pressure the EU ministers, would now meet late next week.

Key ambassadors to the Geneva-based WTO were

already heading for a two-day meeting later this week of trade ministers from 12 mid-sized economies in Vancouver, Canada, to discuss the world trade agenda over the coming year.

"Now the EU has taken its decision, there is no rush. It will be better to hold the DSB session once everyone is back from Vancouver," one envoy said.

At the Vancouver meeting to be attended by Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, Hungary, Indonesia, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, South Africa and Thailand — ministers will discuss the first WTO ministerial meeting in Singapore in December 1996.

WTO Director General Renato Ruggiero, who Monday issued an appeal for urgent consideration in the WTO of possible global rules on competition policies to prevent restrictive business practices in member states, will also be present briefly.

The WTO currently has 111 members, but more than 40 more countries are expected to join over the next two years.

Diplomats and officials said news of the EU decision on the appeals panel, widely interpreted as a setback in the face of widespread criticism, had come as a welcome relief at the WTO.

They said it had been feared that Brussels, under pressure from France which had asserted that the EU's weight in world trade gave it the right to have two appeals judges, might attach unacceptable conditions to its climb-down.

But in the event, the ministers accepted a compromise struck by Trade Commissioner Leon Brittan and simply added a rider that this would not set a precedent or deprive the EU of the right to ask for two seats at a review in four years time.

"This was perfectly acceptable to everyone else," said one envoy from an emerging economy. "We had already made it clear whatever was decided now would not be treated as a precedent."

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1995

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 20) Get your talents working wisely in the morning today, but later tonight, you may have delays and other annoyances which must be contend with.

**Taurus:** (April 21 to May 20) Solve difficulties at home in the morning today, but later tonight be careful you are not forceful with others. Pay attention to your diet.

**Gemini:** (May 21 to June 21) Going after what you desire from a new angle will make it easier to attain today, but don't get bogged down with financial worries.

**Moons:** (June 22 to July 21) You have every opportunity to garner the information you need in the morning today. Avoid spending too much money on unnecessary items.

**Leo:** (July



## Klinsmann strikes 4; Eindhoven, Bordeaux win

**PARIS (AFP)** — Bayern Munich, who have not won a European trophy since 1976, had Jürgen Klinsmann's four goals to thank for their crushing 4-1 UEFA Cup demolition of Benfica on Tuesday.

The German striker scored his goals in a 20 minute spell that left the Portuguese side's hopes in tatters at the end of their third round first leg encounter.

Klinsmann, the former Spurs target man, struck in the 27th, 32nd, 43rd and 46th minute past Belgian goalkeeper Michel Freudhomme. Meanwhile Dimas equalised for Benfica in the 31st minute.

Benfica, like Bayern among a group of six former European champions still in this year's high-profile UEFA Cup, were never out-classed despite the score, but the 31-year-old four-star Klinsmann performance must have put the tie beyond their reach.

Klinsmann converted his second headed goal to round off the scoring after being set up by Mehmet Scholl, who linked well with Klinsmann throughout the match.

Scholl and Bulgarian Emil Kostadinov both hit the bar in the second half.



Werder Bremen striker Marco Bode (R) duels for the ball with PSV Eindhoven defender Stan Vlaet (L) during the first half of the third round first leg UEFA Cup match PSV Eindhoven won 2-1 (Reuters photo)



Jürgen Klinsmann of Bayern Munich raises his arms in celebration after scoring his first goal against Benfica Lisbon during their third-round first leg UEFA Cup clash in Munich, November 21. Klinsmann scored three goals during the first half (Reuters photo)

PSV Eindhoven of Holland and Nottingham Forest of England, meanwhile — two other former European

champions along with Barcelona and AC Milan — both came away with home wins... although both left it late.

Brazil's Ronaldó kept up his goalscoring exploits as PSV Eindhoven beat Werder Bremen 2-1.

Ronaldo, 19, converted a ninth minute penalty after he was fouled by Bremen keeper Frank Rost to open the scoring. Bremen nearly equalised before the break when Heiko Scholz hit a post.

Marco Bode made it 1-1 when he dribbled past Chris Van Der Werden before beating keeper Ronald Waterreus ten minutes after the break.

Then 28-year-old Belgian international striker Luc Nilis, fed by Mariano Vink, scored in the 83rd minute to bring Eindhoven victory.

At the weekend, Ronaldo was in fine form as he scored a hat-trick for PSV in an 8-0 win over Doetinchem.

Frank Clark's Nottingham came through 1-0 against Lyon of France, the dramatic finale set off when defender Florent Laville was sent off for a deliberate hand-ball.

Goalkeeper Pascal Olmeta collided with defender Florent Laville in the 82nd minute and when Howe drove in the loose ball, Laville blocked it with his upper arm.

The Frenchman, booked just minutes earlier for a trip on Scott Gemmill, was shown the red card by Hungarian referee Sandor Puhle before Forest skipper Stuart Pearce stepped up for his spot kick.

Olmeta flew to his left to block but McGregor reacted sharply to pounce on the loose ball for his first goal since he scored at West Ham in January in one of his 12 previous substitute appearances.

Danish side Brondby, victors over English Premiership side Liverpool in the previous round, saw off AS Roma 2-1 after the Italians had gone into a first-half lead.

Uruguayan Daniel Fonseca opened the scoring in the 17th minute against Lyon of France, the run of play with a header, but Rome fullback Fabio Petrucci equalised just before half-time as he deflected an Allan Nielsen shot into his own net.

Ole Bjørn settled the match for the home side when he took advantage of a defensive mix-up in the Roman defence to score a 76th minute winner.

## Jordan leads Bulls to best start in club history

**DALLAS (R)** — Michael Jordan helped the Bulls get off to their best start in franchise history by scoring six of the 36 points in overtime as Chicago rallied for a 108-102 victory over the Dallas Mavericks.

The Bulls improved to 8-1. Their previous best record at the beginning of the season was a 7-1 start in 1992-93, the season they won the last of their NBA titles.

Jordan's two free throws with 2:30 left in overtime snapped a 98-98 tie and gave the Bulls the lead for good.

Jordan, who had forced overtime by blocking a Jim

Jackson shot, hit two more free throws with 29 seconds left to give the Bulls a 104-100 lead.

Jason Kidd recorded his fifth career triple-double for Dallas, finishing with 25 points, 15 rebounds, 11 assists and six steals. But the Mavs have lost four in a row and five of six games since starting the season 4-0.

Scottie Pippen added 26 points for the Bulls, while Jamal Mashburn chipped in 21 for Dallas.

"We got really fortunate they missed a basket at the end of regulation," Jordan said. "When we got into

overtime, we took better control of the game."

In Toronto, rookie Damon Stoudamire had a triple-double and sank two free throws with 1:04 remaining to lift the expansion Raptors to their third win in a row, 102-97 victory over the Seattle SuperSonics.

Stoudamire had 20 points, 12 rebounds and 11 assists. His key foul shots came after the Sonics had cut a six-point deficit to 98-97 with 1:12 to play.

Willie Anderson's 21-footer gave Toronto their final 102-97 advantage with 16 seconds left.

Oliver Miller scored 23 points and Anderson added 22 for the Raptors. Gary Payton had 24 points and 11 assists for the Sonics, who have lost three of their last four games.

In Denver, rookie Antonio McDyess scored 22 points and Dale Ellis added 15 as the Nuggets beat the Atlanta Hawks 107-99 for just their second win of the season.

McDyess, who added 10 rebounds, was 11-of-13 from the field for the Nuggets, who also got 12 points, six rebounds and five assists off the bench from Jalen Rose.

Tied 83-83 with 9:04 re-

maining, Denver went on a 10-0 spurt to grab a 93-83 lead with 5:11 left.

The Hawks closed to 99-94 on consecutive three-pointers by Mookie Blaylock but got no closer.

Andrew Lang scored 22 points.

In Los Angeles, James Robinson nailed a three-pointer at the buzzer to lift the Portland Trail Blazers to a 109-108 over the Lakers.

The Lakers, who had their four-game winning streak snapped, broke a 106-106 tie with eight seconds left when Nick Van Exel dropped in a 10-foot jumper.

## GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH  
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### WHO NEEDS ACES?

North-South vulnerable. South 1<sup>st</sup> deal.

NORTH ♠J 7 6 2 ♡Q J 4 ♢K 9 3 ♣A 10 6 3

EAST ♠A 8 3 ♡A 9 8 ♢Q 1 9 8 ♣A Q J 10 6 4

WEST ♠Q 5 3 ♡A 10 9 8 ♢A 7 5 2 ♣A K 9 7 2

SOUTH ♠A K 9 5 5 ♡A K 8 7 2 ♢A 9 8 7 6 ♣A J 2 4

The bidding: SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

Opening lead: Queen of ♠.

The buster of bridge is full of spectators, but most of which were actually players as reported, others that are spocryphic. This spectacular defense was found at the table during a rubber-bridge game by one of the most colorful players in the history of the game — the late Harry Fishbein.

The defense is straightforward.

Now North's raise to two spades. If North does not bid immediately, especially with four-card support, it could become very difficult to describe the holding later in the auction.

In response to East's lead directing bid of three clubs, Fishbein led the queen of clubs and continued the suit. East took the ace and king to complete the defensive book, and West had to decide what to discard on the third club.

At duplicate West might have had a huge problem, but rubber bridge Fishbein did not hesitate for a moment. The ace of diamonds was led and Fishbein cashed for the setting trick, but it turned out that another club lead would provide the queen of spades to the setting trick, whether declarer ruffed high or low. The problem was how to alert partner to the possibility.

Fishbein found a pretty solution. He discarded the ace of diamonds. Since declarer had to lead to the king in both major suits to cash the jump to four spades, East worked out the situation. A fourth club was led, and the queen of spades became the setting trick.

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**PLAZA**  
Nadia Al Jundi, Farouq Fishawi and Mahmoud Hamideh in  
**A Woman Who shook the Throne of Egypt**  
(Arabic)  
Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30

**CINEMA** TEL: 677420  
**CONCORD**  
**CONCORD "1"**  
Nadia Al Jundi, Farouq Fishawi and Mahmoud Hamideh ... in  
**A Woman Who shook the Throne of Egypt**  
Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6, 8:15, 10:30  
**CONCORD "2"**  
Sylvester Stallone in  
**ASSASSINS**  
Shows: 3:30, 6, 8:15, 10:15

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# Sports

JORDAN TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23-24, 1995 11



German World Champion Michael Schumacher (left) watches his new Ferrari team check his Formula One car following a test drive in Estoril's race track November 21.

## Cuba, Taiwan win weightlifting gold

GUANGZIQU, China (R) — Pablo Lara-Rodriguez of Cuba and Chen Jun-Lien of Taiwan claimed gold medal sweeps at the World Weightlifting Championships on Tuesday.

Lara-Rodriguez prevailed in a tense battle in the men's 76-kg category, while Chen scored a comfortable victory in the women's 64-kg group.

The Cuban swept all three golds, with the snatch title going his way in a three-way tie because he was lighter than the others who matched his best lift of 162.5 kg — Armenian Khaehal Kapantsian and Bulgarian Yotov Yotov.

Lara-Rodriguez managed 205 kg in the clean and jerk for an aggregate 367.5 kg, giving him a 2.5-kg edge over

Yotov who was silver medalist in both clean and jerk and overall.

Greek Victor Mitrou took the overall bronze.

A superb performance in the snatch section set Chen on her way to her golden sweep in the women's 64-kg category.

Chen lifted 97.5 kg to win the snatch by 5 kg from Hungarian Erzsebet Markus. Chen also won the clean and jerk ahead of Bulgaria's Gergana Kirilova and South Korea's Choi Eun-Ja. All three lifted 115 kg but Chen won because she was lighter than the others.

A second-string strike



Monica Seles of the U.S. returns a shot during a U.S. Open match. Seles played with a knee brace and has now withdrawn from the Fed Cup citing injuries (AFP photo)

## Seles withdraws from Fed Cup

SARASOTA, Florida (R) — Monica Seles said on Tuesday she will not compete for the United States in the Fed Cup because of injuries.

Seles, who withdrew because of injuries from the WTA Tour championships which ended on Sunday, said she is not ready for tournament competition because of lingering injuries.

"I really wanted to play for my country at the Fed Cup matches in Spain and join the other members of the team," Seles was quoted in a news release from her spokesman.

U.S. team members Mary Joe Fernandez, Gigi Fernandez and Lindsay Davenport are in Valencia preparing for this weekend's matches.

Billie Jean King, captain of the U.S. Fed Cup team, is expected to name a replacement for Seles, who said, "I have told Billie Jean to sign

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Ammen 11110, Jordan.

## Pedroso's record scratched

ROME (R) — The World long jump record set by Cuban Ivan Pedroso has been ruled invalid by the Italian Athletics Federation (FIDAL), which said on Tuesday that three Italian officials had been disciplined for irregularities.

A FIDAL statement said inquiries into the 8.96 metre leap, at the high-altitude venue of Sestriere on July 29, had shown that "irregular behaviour" by certain officials had influenced a proper reading of the wind speed.

The statement said FIDAL official Luciano Gemello had been banned for life for obscuring the wind gauge as Pedroso made his jump. Two judges at the meeting, Pado Gugliemi and Denis Moroni, were suspended for three years.

The FIDAL ruling has the effect of scratching world champion Pedroso's record mark but must be ratified by the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF).

## Arab Clubs Table Tennis Championship

### Ahli crowned champions

By Aleen Bannayan  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Egypt's Al Ahli Club Wednesday retained the men's title at the 7th Arab Clubs Table tennis championship after overcoming compatriots Al Zamalek 3-1 in the final match.

The title was Al Ahli's fourth consecutive and fifth overall in seven championships held so far. Their women's team has also dominated the competition and impressively retained their fourth title yesterday after overcoming Benzerat of Tunisia 3-1.

While Al Zamalek had the chance and gave Al Ahli a hard time before giving in, Al Ahli's players had the advantage throughout led by Ashraf Subhi who subdued his rival Ashraf Hilmi 21-17, 25-23 to seal his team's win.

Ashraf Subhi had secured his team's opening match on Wednesday by beating Hisham Hilmi 21-20, 21-10.

Al Zamalek's only win was secured by Ashraf Hilmi who beat Sharif al Saket 21-13, 21-17.

Sharif Diya of Al Ahli then beat Ashraf Ashour 21-16, 17-21, 21-16 in an interesting match which drew wide applause from over 100 attending fans at the sports palace.

Minister of Youth Awad Khlefat distributed the trophies to the top three of the

10-team competition as Al Ahli came in first, Al Zamalek second and Saudi Arabia's Al Ahli third.

The Saudi team had defeated Qatar's Al Ahli 3-1 for third and fourth places, in the game deciding fifth and sixth places Jordan's Al Jazareh came in fifth after overcoming Lebanon's Al Ma'ni 3-1. Al Jazareh of Kuwait finished seventh after defeating Jordan's Al Orthodoxi 3-1. Palestine came in ninth and Sudan's Khartoum tenth.

In the women's competition, Al Ahli finished first, Al Zamalek second, Tunisia's Benzerat third, Jordan's Amman and Orthodoxy fourth and fifth and Lebanon's Homentien sixth.

Organisers, the Jordan Table Tennis Federation, awarded the tournament's most promising player award to the youngest player, Homentien's 13-year-old Lisa Barikyan, who showed the form of a future champion playing in her first Arab championship.

Al Hussein Youth City Director Isam Arida distributed awards to international referees who had officiated the matches at the six-day championship.

During meetings of the Executive Council of the Arab Table Tennis Federation, it was decided that the upcoming Arab Clubs Championship will be held in Algeria.

## Arsenal defeat Sheffield Wednesday 4-2

LONDON (AFP) — Arsenal moved up to third in the English Premiership on Tuesday after coming from behind to register an ultimately comfortable 4-2 victory over struggling Sheffield Wednesday.

There was also success for north London rivals Tottenham Hotspur as 4.75 million pound (about \$7.2 million) signing Chris Armstrong maintained his buoyant form to inflict Middlesbrough's first home defeat of the season.

Armstrong, an object of derision at the beginning of the season following his summer move across London from Crystal Palace, claimed his fifth goal in six matches.

A second-string strike

force of John Hartson and Paul Dickov came back to haunt Sheffield Wednesday, who have not won in the League at Highfield for 33 years.

David Pleat at Highfield.

Bergkamp's ninth goal of the season came from 20 yards but Wednesday, who have not won in the League at Highfield for 33 years,

took control with two goals in the space of 11 minutes.

David Hirst claimed the first after nine minutes when he forced home a far-post header after Waddle's pinpoint cross before Waddle's first goal for three months put Wednesday in front from ten yards after a mistake by defender Steve Bould on 21 minutes.

Dickov was sent on at half time for disappointing Dutch winger Glenn Helder after Wednesday had recovered from conceding a goal through Dennis Bergkamp's

third minute free kick.

Bergkamp's ninth goal of the season came from 20 yards but Wednesday, who have not won in the League at Highfield for 33 years,

David Pleat at Highfield.

Hartson, in the side because of Ian Wright's suspension, sealed victory when he nodded inside the right-hand upright following England captain's David Platt's cross.

Tottenham's victory saw them move up to fifth after just one defeat in the last 11 matches — but not without a hint of controversy.

Middlesbrough, led by 38-year-old player-manager Bryan Robson who came on as a substitute, fiercely protested to referee Michael Reed that Armstrong's 72nd-minute winner should have been disallowed for offside.

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# Kabariti: Syrian positions reflect political hypocrisy

AMMAN (J.T.) — Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Al Kabariti was on Wednesday quoted as describing Syrian policy as double standard and reflecting political hypocrisy.

In an interview with the Arabic daily Al Aswaq, the minister said: "We used to believe that we understand and comprehend the Syrian position but it turned out that position was unclear particularly when Syria attacked the Amman economic summit while displaying own enthusiasm in the Barcelona conference, which will handle political security as well as economic issues."

Asked to comment on Syrian Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam's recent statement in which he levelled accusations against Jordan, Mr. Kabariti said: "Three weeks ago we heard Syria manifesting extremely negative attitude towards the peace process and putting the blame on Israel for disrupting the peace process in the region. But today we hear totally different views showing Damascus's flexibility and suggesting that Syria is ready to deal with Israel and resume the peace negotiations over the Golan Heights."

"We had believed that we understood the Syrian position as hostile to Iraq ever since (Iraq's) war with Iran and until the arrival in Jordan of Hussein Hassan. But we now hear Syria accusing Jordan of seeking to



Abdul Karim Al Kabariti

partition Iraq. Everyone realises that Jordan is totally against partitioning Iraq and seeks to end the suffering of the Iraqi people and enable the Iraqis to exercise their right to a free and dignified life."

"In view of this situation, we find no explanation for this double standard in the Syrian policy except by describing it as political hypocrisy," said the minister.

Mr. Kabariti denied that Jordan and Israel were holding consultations over a Jordanian-Israeli-Palestinian confederation in the light of a recent statement by Israeli Premier Shimon Peres.

"If there were serious discussions on regional arrangements between the three parties they do not go beyond the economic dimensions."

## Israeli missiles wound 2 in Lebanon

MARIA YOUN (AFP) — Israeli helicopters fired air-to-ground missiles just north of the occupied "security zone" in South Lebanon Wednesday to foil an attack, wounding two guerrillas, Israel's proxy militia said.

The guerrillas from the Amal movement of Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri were spotted by Israeli troops as they prepared to launch an attack from an uninhabited house facing the central sector of the zone.

Israeli army choppers fired air-to-surface missiles wounding two guerrillas, the allied South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia said.

Amal, in a statement issued in the southern port of Sidon, claimed its fighters attacked an SLA infantry patrol in the same area with machine guns and rockets causing casualties among their ranks.

After the operation SLA forces destroyed four uninhabited houses, Amal said.

### Fishermen freed

Israeli naval forces on Wednesday released three Lebanese fishermen to representatives of the Red Cross after detaining them for 20 hours but kept their boat, an AFP correspondent reported.

The fisherman were headed over to representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) at the port of Naqoura, on the international border, and returned to Tyre, 85 kilometres south of Beirut.

But their boat was held at Naqoura, where the SLA controls a small port near the headquarters of U.N. peacekeepers.

Israel — which has imposed a partial blockade of ports in South Lebanon since February — seized and then released nine fishermen in the past two weeks, according to the head of the fisherman's union in Tyre, Mohammad Bawab.

Mr. Bawab charged that Israeli gunboats, which patrol Lebanese territorial waters, were now preventing shipping vessels from going beyond a one-kilometre limit from the coast.

"If they go further out the Israeli gunboats fire warning shots at them," Mr. Bawab said.

Israel initially has set a two-kilometre limit and said the measure was aimed at preventing seaborne attacks.

## FIS is ready for talks with Zeroual

BONN (AFP) — In a clear acknowledgement of President Liamine Zeroual's success in remodelling Algeria's political landscape with last week's elections, the main Islamic opposition group said on Wednesday that it had written to him to offer cooperation.

Rabah Kebir, the German-based leader of the banned Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), said the movement was "ready for dialogue with this government so as to help bring peace" in Algeria.

The offer came in an open letter to Mr. Zeroual, a French language copy of which was released to AFP in Bonn. Analysis noted that it was the first time the FIS had so explicitly acknowledged the legitimacy of the Zeroual regime.

The moved followed last Thursday's election, boycotted both by the FIS and most other opposition groups, in which Mr. Zeroual won over 61 per cent of the vote on a turnout of almost 75 per cent.

Mr. Kebir's letter did not specify, however, how the proposed dialogue could take place as long as two top FIS leaders remained in prison.

The front has steadfastly refused any offers of dialogue with the authorities as long as the two leaders, Abassi Madani and Ali Belhadj, are not free.

The two were jailed in June 1991, six months before elections which the FIS was widely reported to have won — a coffin.

The FIS is one of eight opposition parties — signatories to a "national contract" signed in January — which called for a boycott of the elections.

Although the group's apparent readiness to cooperate with the military-backed regime was a positive sign, observers noted that the most dangerous group of all had still not made its position.

The Shadowy Armed Islamic Group (GIA) has claimed responsibility for many of the bloodiest terror attacks — including several in France — and had threatened to kill people who took part in last Thursday's vote.

In one pre-election statement, the GIA warned that Algerians who used the ballot-box would speedily end up in another kind of box — a coffin.

The GIA is one of eight opposition parties — signatories to a "national contract" signed in January — which called for a boycott of the elections.

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The Ahnaf was due to go back to Gaza later this month.

Foreign ministry sources said Israel was "disappointed" by Tunisia's failure to send a high-level official to the funeral earlier this month of assassinated Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. They said Tunisia's ambassador to Jordan came to the funeral unannounced and at the last moment.

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